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Statistical Services of the United States Government



Revised edition - June 1952

Office of Statistical Standards

Bureau of the Budget

Executive Office of the President

Washington 25, D.C.

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INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this booklet is to provide a general description of the economic and social statistical programs of the United States Government--where they are located, how the data are collected, and what data are available in these areas from Federal agencies.

Some important aspects of statistics in governmental activities are either omitted from this discussion or referred to only briefly. Among these aspects are applications of statistics in the physical and natural sciences, including biometrics; the use of statistical methods in administrative processes, as in customs inspections; the work of the Statistical Engineering Laboratory at the National Bureau of Standards; and experimental work in advanced techniques, as in the interindustry economics research program.

Part I describes the organization of statistical services within the Federal Government, the methods employed in achieving coordination, and some of the general principles and practices followed in Federal statistical activities. Part II presents brief descriptions of the principal economic and social statistical series. A summary of the statistical responsibilities of Federal agencies and an annotated bibliography of the principal periodical statistical publications issued by Government agencies are presented in appendixes.

An important appraisal of United States statistical activities is contained in The Statistical Agencies of the United States Government by Frederick C. Mills and Clarence D. Long (New York: National Bureau of Economic Research, Inc., 1949). This volume presents the full report on statistical agencies made to the Commission on Organization of the Executive Branch of the Government (the Hoover Commission), as part of the Commission's general appraisal of governmental organization and operations.

A discussion of the reasons for decentralization of statistical activities of the United States Government was presented in a report on "Centralization and Coordination of Federal Statistics" prepared by the Bureau of the Budget at the request of the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives. This report was printed in the Congressional Record of December 11, 1945 (vol. 91--part 13, pages A5419-5423), and reprints are available from the Office of Statistical Standards, Bureau of the Budget.

More detailed analysis of principal Federal statistical series by subject-matter fields is contained in Government Statistics for Business Use, edited by Philip M. Hauser and William R. Leonard (New York: John Wiley & Sons, 1946). A revision of this volume, now in process, is scheduled for publication in 1953.

Specific aspects of the Government's statistical organization and coordinating procedures are discussed in more detail in articles which have appeared in various periodicals and other publications. Among these might be mentioned:

"The Role and Management of the Federal Statistical System" by Stuart A. Rice, in The American Political Science Review, June 1940 (vol. 34, pp. 481-488)

"Authority and Reason as Instruments of Coordination in the United States" by Morris A. Copeland, in The American Statistician, June 1948 (vol. 2, no. 3)

"The Development of Federal Statistical Coordination, 1908-49" by Clem C. Linnenberg, Jr., in The American Statistician, April-May and June-July, 1949 (vol. 3, nos. 2 and 3)

"The Federal Statistical System" by Harry Alpert, in The American Journal of Sociology, March 1951 (vol. 56, pp. 468-475)

"Centralized Internal Control of Data Collection by Federal Agencies" by Edward T. Crowder, in the Journal of the American Statistical Association, June 1944 (vol. 39, pp. 155-164)

Annual reports of the Advisory Council on Federal Reports
(Washington: Advisory Council on Federal Reports, 1615 H Street, N.W.)

Reports of the Bureau of the Budget to the United States Senate Special Committee to Study Problems of American Small Business, on "Progress Under the Federal Reports Act," especially: Two Years of Progress Under the Federal Reports Act, March 1945 (79th Congress, 1st Session, Senate Report No. 47, Part 2); and Business Cooperation in Reducing Burden of Government Questionnaires, November 1946 (79th Congress, 2nd Session, Senate Committee Print No. 11)

Part I

THE STATISTICAL SYSTEM OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

ORGANIZATION

Decentralization of statistical activities

In the United States, the statistics necessary for the performance of most central governmental activities have developed within the agencies needing statistical data for operating purposes. Also, many different acts of Congress direct various agencies to collect statistical information of designated kinds, some for administrative and operating purposes and others for general public use. Thus the statistical organization of the United States Government has developed in a decentralized pattern, with many different Government agencies concerned with the collection, compilation or analysis of statistical data in specified areas.

There are many advantages in such a decentralized organization, particularly where statistical activities are as extensive and complex as in the United States. At the same time, decentralization requires that there be a central statistical office serving as coordinating agency, to prevent duplication, achieve balance, and develop procedures for an integrated system of governmental statistics. In the United States Government, this central statistical agency is the Office of Statistical Standards in the Bureau of the Budget, which is part of the Executive Office of the President.

Almost every agency of the Government collects or uses statistics to some degree. It is possible, however, to make certain distinctions in the kind of statistical activity performed, and to group agencies in broad categories of statistical responsibilities. It should be stressed, however, that this grouping is only a convenient device to distinguish among different kinds of statistical activities, and that the three types listed below are not mutually exclusive. The general-purpose agencies, for instance, also perform important tasks in analysis and research; and the statistics collected for administrative use may also serve general purposes.

General-purpose statistical agencies

The foundation of the Federal statistical system is a group of agencies designated as "general-purpose" statistical agencies. The primary function of these agencies is the collection of statistics for general use, and each of them is responsible for the regular collection, analysis and publication of data in specified fields. These agencies, and their principal areas of responsibility, are:

Bureau of the Census in the Department of Commerce--responsible for all the major censuses, including population, housing, agriculture, manufactures, mineral industries, business, transportation, and governments; and for current statistics on population and the labor force, manufacturing activities and commodity production, retail and wholesale trade, foreign trade, and State and local government finances and employment.

Bureau of Labor Statistics in the Department of Labor--responsible for current statistics on nonagricultural employment, earnings, man-hours, labor turnover, industrial accidents, work stoppages, wage rates; industrial productivity; collective bargaining agreements; wholesale prices, retail prices and urban consumers' price indexes; housing construction, publicly financed nonresidential construction.

Bureau of Agricultural Economics in the Department of Agriculture--responsible for current statistics on crop and livestock production and inventories; crop forecasts; food processing and food consumption; farm population, labor, and wages; farm management; farm ownership, taxation and finance, and land values and transfers; prices farmers pay and receive; farm income.

National Office of Vital Statistics in the Public Health Service, Federal Security Agency--responsible for compilation and publication of official national reports on births, deaths, marriages and divorces, and morbidity; and for the preparation of life tables.

The Bureau of Mines in the Department of the Interior, although not primarily a statistical agency, should also be classified in the general-purpose group. It is the principal source of current statistics on production, consumption and stocks of minerals and mineral products, including coal and petroleum, and on employment and injuries in the mineral industries. In similar fashion, the Office of Education in the Federal Security Agency, although not exclusively a statistical agency, is the primary source of current statistics on city and State school systems, institutions of higher education, special schools, and public and school libraries.

The resources of these agencies--particularly of the Bureau of the Census and the Bureau of Labor Statistics--are frequently used for the collection of statistics needed by other agencies. Such contract work for other agencies may be performed merely by adding supplementary questions to an existing survey, or may take the form of entirely new collections where it is advantageous to use the existing facilities of the general-purpose agencies.

Administrative and regulatory agencies

In addition to the basic statistical series collected by the general-purpose statistical agencies, many important and valuable statistical series are obtained by other agencies of the Government as a by-product of their administrative or operating responsibilities in specific fields. The primary purpose of the statistics collected by these agencies is to supply the agency with information it needs in performing its function, but many of the statistics obtained for this purpose are also of great value to the public and to other agencies of the Government.

An example of important statistical data obtained as a by-product of operations is the statistical information collected by the Social Security Administration in administering its old-age and survivors insurance program. Operation of this program yields wage information which forms an integral part of the national income series, and other information--such as employment and the number of businesses in operation--which is widely used in various statistical series and research projects. Similarly, the employment security program, which is administered by the Bureau of Employment Security in the Department of Labor and by State employment security agencies, yields data on unemployment claims, covered employment, job opportunities, and characteristics of the labor supply which are used in economic and social analyses by governmental agencies, employers, labor groups, economists, and others. As another example, the income-tax returns made by individuals and corporations to the Bureau of Internal Revenue in the Treasury Department are an important source of data on the sources and size distribution of income.

A number of economic activities in the United States, particularly in the fields of transportation and public utilities, are subject to Federal regulation. Among the regulatory agencies established for this purpose are the Federal Power Commission, for the gas and electric utilities; the Federal Communications Commission, for the telephone, telegraph and radio and television industries; the Interstate Commerce Commission for railroads and certain classes of water carriers and contract and common carrier highway transportation; the Civil Aeronautics Board, for air carriers; and the Comptroller of the Currency in the Treasury Department, for national banks. Each of these regulatory agencies obtains information on financial and operating aspects of the industries under its supervision, and these data are widely used by other agencies and the public.

Other agencies which produce valuable statistical data as a by-product of their administrative operations in specialized fields include the Production and Marketing Administration, the Forest Service, and the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, in the Department of Agriculture; the Fish and Wildlife Service in the Department of

the Interior; the Immigration and Naturalization Service, in the Department of Justice; the Public Health Service, in the Federal Security Agency; the Securities and Exchange Commission, United States Civil Service Commission, United States Tariff Commission, and Veterans Administration. Other examples may be found in the more complete listing of the statistical responsibilities of Federal agencies, which is presented in Appendix I.

Analytic and research agencies

There are a number of agencies which play an important role in the Federal statistical system not through the collection but through the compilation, analysis or interpretation of statistics. These agencies are among the primary users of the data collected by other agencies or for other purposes, and their estimates, analyses, or forecasts are an important product of the Government's statistical system.

The National Income Division in the Office of Business Economics, Department of Commerce, for instance, compiles estimates of national income and gross national product which are among the most comprehensive measures of economic activity prepared by the Government. These estimates are based on several hundred statistical series, including data obtained in the censuses of population, manufactures, mineral industries, wholesale and retail trade, and agriculture; estimates of gross and net farm income, prepared by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics; and data obtained as a by-product of regulatory or administrative operations of such agencies as the Bureau of Internal Revenue, Securities and Exchange Commission, Interstate Commerce Commission, and Social Security Administration.

As another example, the Council of Economic Advisers in the Executive Office of the President is responsible for the continuing analysis and interpretation of economic trends, taking into account the interrelationship of all parts of the national economy. The Council also uses data from a wide variety of sources in preparing important statistical tables relating to the Nation's economic budget and to employment, production and purchasing power, which are presented in its annual and midyear reports. It also prepares for the Congressional Joint Committee on the Economic Report a monthly statistical publication, Economic Indicators.

Other agencies which are important users of statistical data include the Office of International Trade in the Department of Commerce, which prepares analyses of U.S. foreign trade based on data compiled by the Census Bureau; and research units in the Federal Reserve Board, Treasury Department and Bureau of the Budget, which use a variety of statistical data in determining various aspects of the Government's financial, fiscal and budgetary policies.

COORDINATION--
Office of Statistical Standards, Bureau of the Budget

The need for a single unit to serve as central coordinating agency for the Government's diversified statistical activities was recognized in 1933 by the creation of the Central Statistical Board. This Board had limited authority and its functions were primarily advisory. Its authority was greatly increased in 1939 when, as part of a governmental reorganization, it was incorporated into the Bureau of the Budget in the Executive Office of the President, where it became the Division of Statistical Standards. In 1952 the Division was renamed the Office of Statistical Standards.

Authorities and functions

The Office of Statistical Standards is charged with the Budget Bureau's responsibilities under the following laws and executive orders:

Executive Order 8248 (September 8, 1939)--Planning and promoting the improvement, development and coordination of Federal and other statistical services.

Federal Reports Act of 1942--Eliminating duplication in the collection of information from the public, reducing the cost of Federal reporting services, and minimizing the burden to the public of furnishing information to Federal agencies.

Executive Order 10033 (February 8, 1949)--Coordinating the handling of statistical inquiries to the United States from international organizations.

Budget and Accounting Procedures Act of 1950, Section 103, and Executive Order 10253 (June 11, 1951)--Developing programs and issuing regulations and orders for the improved gathering, compiling, analyzing, publishing, and disseminating of statistical information by Federal agencies.

By request of the President in November 1950, the Office of Statistical Standards also maintains a surveillance of the publication of statistics by all Federal agencies to determine the need for restrictions on the publication of statistical data in the interests of national security. In addition, as the central statistical coordinating agency within the Federal Government, the Office of Statistical Standards serves as the focal point for United States participation in the statistical activities of international organizations. It is also consulted by other governmental agencies and nongovernmental groups for information on the adequacy, quality and appropriateness of statistical data for specific purposes.

Organization

The administrative officers of the Office are the Assistant Director of the Bureau of the Budget for Statistical Standards, serving as Chief, a Deputy Chief and three Assistant Chiefs, who share responsibility for the work of the Office and its relationships with other parts of the Budget Bureau and with other agencies, and for program planning in subject-matter fields. The lines between the subject-matter fields cross at many points, and the organization of the Office is kept flexible to achieve the common aim of an integrated and improved statistical system.

Assignments to staff members are made on the basis of subject-matter fields, rather than on agency lines, because integration of Federal statistical programs requires greater attention to alignments in subject matter than to the traditional boundaries between agency programs. A staff member may be concerned with a number of related fields, and conversely a particular field may be of interest to several different staff members from different viewpoints.

The functions of the Office of Statistical Standards are performed primarily through (1) the review and clearance of statistical forms and other requests for information proposed by Federal agencies; (2) consultation with Government officials, interagency committees, business and labor advisers, and other groups on the needs for statistical data and the most efficient means of collecting the information needed, (3) development and application of standard definitions, classifications and procedures for use by all agencies; (4) review, in cooperation with other parts of the Budget Bureau of the budget estimates of statistical agencies; and (5) coordination of Federal statistical activities with requirements of international organizations. These activities, each of which is described below, are closely related, and staff members of the Office of Statistical Standards must therefore be familiar with all phases of the coordination process. A staff member reviewing a proposal for the collection of information, for example, must at the same time be concerned with the usefulness of the data to public groups, with the application of standards, and with international statistical requirements and commitments.

Review of agency requests for information

The Federal Reports Act of 1942 provides that every agency of the Federal Government (with a few specified exceptions) must obtain Budget Bureau approval for any request for information to be sent to ten or more respondents. This means in effect that no statistics may be collected without examination and approval by the Bureau of the Budget. Within the Bureau, this authority is delegated to the Office of Statistical Standards.

The review requirement applies not only to statistical questionnaires but also to administrative forms, such as applications or claims forms. It applies to identical requests for information, whether by questionnaire or other method of inquiry, such as telegrams or oral requests. It also applies to information collected by contracting organizations under the sponsorship of Federal agencies as well as to that collected directly by a Government agency.

The purposes of this examination by the Office of Statistical Standards are to prevent unnecessary duplication, reduce costs and reporting burdens, and improve the quality and general usefulness of the statistics obtained. Toward these ends, every new reporting plan or questionnaire proposed is examined to see (1) that the information it would obtain is necessary and relevant to the program of the agency; (2) that the information is not already available from reports collected by the same or any other agency; (3) that the form is as simple as possible and conforms to business record-keeping practices; (4) that it is sent to the smallest possible number of respondents; and (5) that it is collected no more frequently than necessary. Forms which are approved bear a Budget Bureau approval number, usually with an expiration date. Before the expiration date the form must be resubmitted for Budget Bureau examination as to its continued necessity and for any further simplification possible in the light of experience.

Obviously the amount of time spent by a staff reviewer on a proposal and the amount of consultation with other governmental or nongovernmental groups depend on the character and magnitude of the proposal under consideration. A simple form without ramifications into the interests of other agencies may be reviewed quickly by one individual to whom it is assigned. On the other hand, proposals for larger operations--such as the Census of Manufactures, for example--call into operation many other procedures for obtaining additional advice and consultation.

The Office of Statistical Standards has encouraged individual agencies to establish central points for their own internal clearance and control over report forms originating in their subordinate units. This procedure retains for the Office of Statistical Standards responsibility for final review and approval and enables it to devote primary attention to broader issues of interagency coordination. In practice, many important forms receive from an early stage the continuous attention of both the Office of Statistical Standards and the agency's statistical control office.

Consultation with other groups

In all its work toward coordination and improvement of Federal statistical activities, the Office of Statistical Standards relies

heavily on consultation with other groups--both governmental and non-governmental--for advice and assistance. Toward this end it has established a number of advisory committees, broadly representative of public and private organizations, which it consults on specific problems. Among the most important of these committees are:

The Federal Committee on Economic Statistics, which advises on all major problems affecting statistical programs. This committee works primarily through subcommittees in specialized areas, on which all Federal agencies concerned are represented. For example, the subcommittees on labor force statistics, transportation statistics, standard metropolitan areas, banking statistics and construction statistics make recommendations on the collection, improvement and coordination of data in these areas.

The Federal Committee on International Statistics, composed of representatives of Federal agencies, established in 1946 to advise on problems concerning coordination of Federal statistical programs which involve relations with international organizations or foreign governments. This committee also serves in an advisory capacity to the Chief of the Office of Statistical Standards in his capacity as United States representative on the Statistical Commission of the United Nations.

The Advisory Council on Federal Reports, composed of two representatives from each of seven national business organizations and four business members-at-large. This committee was formed at the request of the Director of the Budget in 1942. Its function is to advise the Office of Statistical Standards on methods of improving reporting procedures in order to reduce the costs and burdens and to increase the usefulness of Government reports. It operates through an executive staff and a large number of subcommittees, conferences and panels, in close contact with staff members of the Office of Statistical Standards.

The Labor Advisory Committee on Statistics, composed of representatives of the American Federation of Labor, the Congress of Industrial Organizations and the Railroad Brotherhoods, established at the request of the Director of the Budget in 1945 to advise the Office of Statistical Standards on the interests of organized labor in Federal statistical programs.

The Advisory Committee on Statistical Policy, established by the American Statistical Association in 1951, to advise the Office of Statistical Standards, and through it the Federal statistical system, on broad matters of public policy in the statistical area. The committee is composed of 7 past presidents of the American Statistical Association.

The Office of Statistical Standards also assists and cooperates with committees established for special purposes by other Federal agencies, with business committees sponsored by organizations of business concerns, and with committees sponsored by professional statistical organizations.

Development of standards

As the central statistical coordinating agency, the Office of Statistical Standards takes the leadership in developing uniform standards for use by all agencies. Standard definitions, classifications, techniques and procedures are essential to reduce the areas of ambiguity and apparent conflict between statistical series of different agencies.

Among the standards which have been developed by the Office of Statistical Standards, in cooperation with the principal statistical agencies, are:

- Standard Industrial Classification
- Standard Commodity Classification
- Standard Definitions of Metropolitan Areas
- Standard Definitions of Employment and Production Workers
- Standard Payroll-reporting Period
- Standards for the Design of Report Forms
- Standards for Statistical Surveys
- Standards for the Publication of Statistical Data

The use of standard definitions and classifications by different agencies increases the comparability of the data. Application of the Standard Industrial Classification, for example, is a necessary first step before employment data for a particular industry obtained by one agency can be related to industrial production data for the same industry obtained by another agency. This classification system has also been adopted by a number of business firms and industrial organizations.

The "Standards for the Publication of Statistical Data" were issued in 1947 as recommended procedures to reduce the areas of possible misunderstanding or misinterpretation of the Government's statistical data. They represent a codification of what is regarded as good statistical practice, within or outside the Government. Similarly, the "Standards for Statistical Surveys" were issued in March 1952 to serve as guides to good statistical practice in the planning and conduct of statistical surveys, for use in surveys conducted directly by Federal agencies and in those conducted under Government sponsorship by contracting organizations.

Recommendations on statistical budgets

The Bureau of the Budget is responsible for reviewing the annual appropriation requests of all agencies, and for recommending what funds should be included for each agency in the annual Budget estimate which the President submits to the Congress. Formerly, statistical programs were considered on an agency basis, and reviewed primarily in the context of that agency's entire program. Beginning in 1949, the Office of Statistical Standards has prepared a consolidated budget of major statistical activities, in which the statistical system is reviewed as a whole and statistical programs are reviewed by major subject fields rather than on agency lines.

The preparation of an annual budget in which all major statistical programs are reviewed as parts of a coordinated program is a direct and important aid in accomplishing the objectives of a stronger, more economical and better balanced statistical system. It provides additional assurance that the separate but related statistical activities performed by many different agencies, in accordance with their statutory provisions, are fully coordinated to prevent duplication and unnecessary overlapping. It also provides a means for evaluating statistical activities in a given area in terms of relative usefulness and need, so that emphasis can be placed on those most necessary for a balanced and efficient statistical system for the Federal Government as a whole.

Relations with international organizations and programs

A central point within the Federal Government is needed to which intergovernmental and other international organizations can address inquiries or from which they can ask for assistance on statistical questions concerning programs of many separate agencies. These functions are performed by the Office of Statistical Standards, as the United States Government's central office for statistical coordination and control.

In this connection the Office of Statistical Standards serves as liaison between the statistical agencies of the United States Government and the Statistical Office of the United Nations. It supplies United States data for regular and special United Nations publications, selecting the appropriate series and transmitting descriptions and appraisals of statistical series, techniques of estimation, sources, methods, etc. The Office of Statistical Standards also, under Executive Order 10033, is responsible for clearance of requests from intergovernmental organizations for statistical data from United States Government agencies to ensure that the statistics furnished to such organizations are consistent and of adequate quality. The Office is designated as the "National Focal Point" for the United States by the Inter American Statistical Institute, and

in this connection facilitates the exchange of statistical information and publications between the United States agencies and other countries in the Western Hemisphere.

As the central statistical coordinating agency, the Office of Statistical Standards provides advice and assistance to the Department of State on statistical matters affecting United States foreign policy, and prepares and obtains agreement among the agencies concerned on statements of official United States policy on statistical questions in the international field. It also advises on coordination of statistical projects included in Point IV and other technical assistance programs.

Members of the staff of the Office of Statistical Standards have served and are serving as members of various advisory bodies to international organizations. The Chief of the Office of Statistical Standards has been the United States representative on the United Nations Statistical Commission since it was first established, and is also a member of the United Nations Committee on Contributions. Other staff members have served on the United Nations Sub-Commission on Statistical Sampling, the UNESCO Committee of Statistical Experts, and the FAO Committee on Contributions. In addition, the services of particular staff members have frequently been requested by international organizations to assist in special projects--for example, the development of the Standard International Trade Classification for use by all member governments of the United Nations; preparation of a manual for the collection of wholesale prices; and surveys of statistical organization, programs and needs in the various countries.

GENERAL PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICES

Adaptation of basic programs to emergency needs

The basic Federal statistical system should be capable of ready adaptation to meet special emergency needs for statistical information. Since the end of World War II the Office of Statistical Standards has placed emphasis on building a strong basic statistical system which could meet current needs for prompt and accurate economic measures, and at the same time be capable of ready adaptation or expansion to meet emergency needs.

Maximum utilization of the facilities, resources and special skills in the regular agencies to meet emergency needs is desirable for many reasons. Use of regular reporting channels makes it possible to collect the information needed at least cost to the Government and least burden to the public. It avoids the necessity for creating costly and duplicative statistical facilities in temporary

emergency agencies. Furthermore, continuity in the collection and analysis of statistical data is essential to avoid inconsistencies and gaps in the periods covered.

The development of emergency programs and administration of emergency controls following passage of the Defense Production Act in 1950 required great quantities of prompt and accurate statistics on production and consumption of materials, manpower resources, wages, prices, and other aspects of the economy. To the extent possible, these emergency needs for data have been met through existing facilities and resources, by use and adaptation of the Government's basic statistical program. Some of the basic statistical series are used to meet emergency requirements without change. Others are modified in various ways--by changes in frequency of collection, in coverage or sample design, in tabulation plans, etc. Others are supplemented by new surveys related to the basic series.

The reporting burdens imposed by emergency controls are very much reduced by maximum use of existing statistical programs, but they cannot be altogether eliminated. The information needed in the administration of price and material allocations, for example, includes reporting and record-keeping requirements that are particularly burdensome and cannot be met by adaptation of any existing statistical program.

Technical aids

A variety of technical aids has been developed to strengthen the efficiency of statistical operations. Among these tools there are the standard classifications and definitions developed by the Office of Statistical Standards in cooperation with the agencies concerned, listed above (p. 11). Many others, adapted to particular programs, have been developed within the statistics-collecting agencies.

The Bureau of Employment Security in the Department of Labor has compiled a Dictionary of Occupational Titles, based on an extensive file of detailed job descriptions which it maintains, for use by all field offices of the employment service. The Bureau of the Census in the Department of Commerce publishes Schedule A and Schedule B--statistical classifications of the commodities imported into or exported from the United States--which have been developed in cooperation with business organizations and other agencies for use in compiling foreign trade statistics.

Other aids developed within the agencies include various kinds of manuals or guides to aid in particular statistical operations. The Census Bureau has published a comprehensive Manual of Tabular Presentation to aid its staff in making tabular materials easy to read and understand. The United States Tariff Commission has also

issued a manual, Rules for Tabular Presentation, to promote uniform presentation of the particular types of data with which the Tariff Commission deals.

Valuable technical material may also be found in descriptions published by various agencies on methods used in constructing statistical series and of the uses and limitations of the data. The Bureau of the Census includes evaluations of this kind in many of its current releases, as well as in the published results from the various censuses. It has also published a useful monograph (A Chapter on Population Sampling) on the application of sampling theory in the work of the Census Bureau. The Bureau of Labor Statistics has published a monograph of technical notes on all its major series, to inform users concerning methods used in preparing the series (Techniques of Preparing Major BLS Statistical Series). The Bureau of Agricultural Economics has issued a similar reference book for statistical reports issued by the Department of Agriculture (Agriculture Estimating and Reporting Services of the United States Department of Agriculture). Analytic and descriptive notes are usually issued at the time of major revisions of important series, and are often contained in annual statistical supplements or other special issues.

Other technical resources developed within the agencies include catalogues of respondents, master samples, and specialized maps. To the extent practicable these materials are made available to other agencies as an aid to efficient statistical operations. Also, the services of technical experts in the Office of Statistical Standards and in the major statistical agencies are frequently made available to other agencies, particularly in such areas as sampling and coding.

The National Bureau of Standards in the Department of Commerce operates a Mathematical Computation Laboratory and a Statistical Engineering Laboratory as part of its function as advisory and service agency to the Federal establishment in the physical and mathematical sciences. These offices also supply services to other agencies, primarily in the fields of experimental design, sampling inspection and process control, and inference from experimental data.

Special equipment

The larger recurring statistical collections of Federal agencies are generally tabulated by mechanical means. Punch-card equipment is owned or rented by most agencies which undertake large surveys on a recurring basis.

The recent development of high-speed electronic computers is of great significance for certain types of statistical operations, as well as for mathematical and scientific applications. The National Bureau of Standards in the Department of Commerce has constructed two

electronic computers which are available to Government agencies for statistical and mathematical problems of particular importance. The proving grounds of the armed forces operate several machines of various powers, which are also used by other agencies--generally for calculating elaborate mathematical problems in the physical sciences.

The first high-speed electronic computer designed with statistical uses specifically in mind was the UNIVAC, made for the Bureau of the Census in 1951. This equipment can be used for complex mathematical routines, but is unique in the speed with which it can process very large masses of data. Its initial use has been for tabulation of data from the 1950 Census of Population, and it has also been used by the Census Bureau and other agencies for other operations involving large quantities of data. Other electronic computers especially adapted to the processing of economic and related data are being developed, and several agencies plan to install such equipment. Since electronic high-speed computing equipment is a very recent development, improved models are frequently introduced by the various manufacturers.

Although these machines are initially very costly, their speed and large capacity substantially reduce the unit costs for operations involving large-scale and routine handling of data. A noteworthy advantage of the new equipment to statistical operations is the much greater speed with which the results of current statistical surveys can be made available. This is particularly important for surveys where the published results lose value rapidly with the passage of time.

The existence of this specialized equipment has permitted various agencies engaged in scientific research to substitute computation for some physical experimentation (e.g., in wind tunnels or chemistry laboratories). Similarly, analysis of economic, social and administrative data is being extended to take advantage of the possibilities of the new machines for high-speed computations. This is particularly true for problems in mathematical (e.g., "linear") programming and for the construction of econometric models, such as the interindustry economic models.

Use of sampling

The use of modern methods of sampling has greatly improved the accuracy and speed of many Federal surveys, and reduced their cost and the burden of response. Sampling is used, for example, to determine month-to-month changes in prices and employment, to forecast conditions of crops and yield, and to estimate household budgets and savings. It is also used to determine the number of inhabitants in an area and their characteristics, or the number of farms in an area, or the number that have particular characteristics. Sampling is

especially economical for measuring changes that have taken place in various areas and classes since the last complete census. The economies are greatest when the last complete census is not far out of date.

The accuracy of a scientifically planned sample can be calculated closely in advance, and geared to the requirements of precision or to the limitations of cost. This is one of the most important features of modern sampling, because a survey can now be planned in accordance with the precision needed in the uses that are to be made of the data, or within the range of the permissible costs, whichever is the determining factor.

Almost any required degree of precision can be obtained through the use of sampling, provided the information sought is obtainable. A sample cannot produce information on subjects for which the techniques of the questionnaire and of the interviewing are yet so undeveloped that accurate information cannot be obtained from respondents. Even in these cases, however, sampling may make a contribution, for if a smaller number of respondents is covered more attention may be given to each at the same total cost.

As in the use of any precision tool, sampling requires expert knowledge. Sampling is not merely the substitution of a part for the whole, with subsequent attempts at adjustments and corrections. Sampling is instead a methodical procedure, planned with the aid of the theory of probability, and carried out strictly in accordance with the demands of theory so that the errors arising from sampling can be calculated mathematically. In a sample that is properly designed, the precision of the results is properly assessed from the results themselves.

One special type of sampling is the "cutoff," whereby a great number of small firms are omitted entirely. Such a device is feasible only when there are sufficiently reliable outside estimates of the number of firms omitted, and of their average size, so that an upper limit may be placed on the error resulting from the omission. The establishment of cutoff points at specified levels has proved to be particularly useful in surveys of certain industries where there is a high concentration of production in a few large firms. For example, it is sometimes possible to obtain information on 90 percent of the production by including in the sample only 10 percent of the firms. The point of cutoff, and the sampling plan to be used for the firms above this point, are amenable to the methods of probability for minimizing the mean square error for a given allowable total cost for the survey. The cutoff is thus one form of probability sampling--that is, of controlling the mean square error to a minimum for a given allowable cost.

Protection of individual returns

In general, all individual statistical returns to Federal agencies are confidential. Respondents are thus protected against the disclosure of their affairs to taxing and regulatory authorities or to their competitors. Data from returns collected on a confidential basis are published only in statistical totals or summaries and are withheld if the number of firms reporting is so small that the summary might identify an individual respondent.

In some cases a second Federal agency has need for, and the power to collect, the same data on individual establishments that have already been collected by some other agency on a confidential basis. In order to prevent duplicate collection of statistics, the Federal Reports Act specified conditions in which confidential data from individual establishments may be made available to another agency, with proper safeguards of their confidential status. Protection of individual returns has been so complete that little reluctance is encountered on this score from business firms asked to supply information on their operations.

Federal and State statistics

In many countries the statistical programs of the territorial or political subdivisions are directed to some degree by the national government, and national statistics in some cases are obtained by summarizing those of the subdivisions. In the United States there is no such direct relationship between the Federal and State governments. Generally speaking, the States are independent of the national government in determining and carrying out their statistical programs. The development of State and municipal statistics has been very uneven: some States and municipalities have fairly comprehensive statistical programs, while others collect and publish very little statistical information.

An important factor in the growth of statistical responsibilities at the national level has been the shift of many economic interests and problems from local to nationwide scope. This shift is probably a natural consequence of the national economic development made possible by the size of the country and the free trade within it; of the fact that many industries operate on a national or interstate basis; and of the interdependence of one region with another.

Although Federal and State statistics are generally independent, certain exceptions might be noted. The national reports of vital statistics, for instance, are based on reports from the States. Similarly, there is a joint Federal-State program for collecting monthly information on employment, hours and earnings in nonagricultural establishments. The Federal regulatory commissions and bank regulatory

agencies have worked closely with State authorities to establish consistency in the reports required by the respective Federal and State authorities.

Some important State and local data are obtained by the Federal Government in connection with various programs administered by the States but financed in part by Federal funds. A by-product of Federal participation in financing such traditionally State-local programs as public health, welfare and education has been the accumulation by the Federal Government of a substantial body of State and local economic, social and financial statistics. Federal interest in some characteristics of all State and local programs financed in part by the Federal Government has tended to make more nearly uniform the types of data States and localities collect on these programs for their own purposes and transmit to the Federal Government.

Government use and support of private statistics

Current statistics in several important fields are collected and published by a number of private publishing organizations and business and financial services. Some of these data are used by Federal agencies: for example, data from the F.W. Dodge Corporation are used by the Department of Commerce in preparing its estimates of the volume of private nonresidential construction. In addition, bureaus of business research in some universities sponsor the collection of economic statistics, usually on subjects of special interest to the geographical region in which the university is located.

Statistical information is also collected by many of the trade associations--organizations of producers or manufacturers of a particular product, or of distributors with common interests. Most frequently these statistics are collected from and for the benefit of the members of the association and thus do not include the production or sales of nonmembers. Often, too, the figures are not made regularly available to the public. On the other hand, there are a score or more of trade associations whose figures are complete, accurate, timely and generally available, and are used by all persons interested, including Government agencies.

There are some instances in which Federal agencies sponsor research or statistical projects undertaken by private organizations, on a contract basis. The Department of Agriculture, for example, has contracts with a number of universities and private survey organizations for a variety of studies on marketing methods, under the provisions of the Research and Marketing Act of 1946. The Department of Defense, including the Army, Navy and Air Force, has numerous contracts for research projects with private organizations; most of these are in technical and scientific fields, but some relate to research in economics and the social sciences. The National Institutes of

Health of the Public Health Service administer a program of research grants to qualified persons, and to public or private institutions, in the general area of medical and health activities. Under the contract research program provided for in the Housing Act of 1949, the Housing and Home Finance Agency has sponsored economic, financial, urban and technological studies by universities and other nonprofit organizations.

A number of other Federal agencies have special surveys conducted from time to time by non-Federal survey or research organizations, private as well as public and quasi-public. Mention should also be made of the statistical laboratories at Iowa State College and the University of North Carolina, which receive Federal funds for the development of statistical methodology and procedures.

Availability of Government statistics

Statistics collected by Federal agencies are made readily available to persons interested in them. In most cases the statistics are released promptly. Many agencies regularly mail releases on particular subjects to lists of individuals or firms who have requested information on the subject. Press releases are given to newspapers and to more specialized publications, such as trade or farm journals.

For most statistical surveys, preliminary bulletins are issued which present as soon as possible partial or incomplete tabulations of the data, before the completely edited summaries are ready for release. Final results of many periodic surveys are printed regularly in monthly or quarterly publications of the agency or in special reports, and are later summarized in yearbooks. For large activities, such as censuses, the final results are generally released both in complete volumes and in separate leaflets dealing with one phase or one locality.

In general, statistical material which is issued in the form of press releases, preliminary bulletins, and the like is distributed by the agency free of charge. Final results published in the form of bound volumes, as well as most of the monthly, quarterly, and annual publications of statistical agencies, and many printed leaflets, pamphlets, and similar documents are printed and sold by the Government Printing Office at nominal prices.

Agencies which publish a considerable amount of statistical material issue catalogs of all the material available, usually classified by subject and with instructions for ordering. Catalogs or listings of publications and releases are issued by the Department of Agriculture, the Bureau of the Census, the Bureau of Labor Statistics, and the Bureau of Mines, among others.

Part II

PRINCIPAL TYPES OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL STATISTICS

The following sections give brief descriptions of present statistical collections in certain fields of major interest. At the end of each section reference is made to numbered items in Appendix II, an annotated bibliography of the principal Federal periodical publications containing statistical data and analyses.

Demography and health

Population. The basic data on the size and characteristics of the population are those collected in the census of the population, which is taken every ten years by the Bureau of the Census, in the Department of Commerce. The first population census was taken in 1790, and in 1810 the census was broadened to include other subjects. The 1950 Censuses of Population, Housing, and Agriculture (comprising the 17th Decennial Census) were taken as of April 1, 1950.

The results of the decennial censuses are published in complete detailed volumes and in special reports and releases covering specific aspects or localities. For the 1950 Census of Population, special releases, designated as Series P-C Reports, gave data in advance of later final statistics on the number and characteristics of the population, including age, sex, race, marital status, place of birth, citizenship, employment status, occupation, education, migration and income. These data were presented in separate releases with varying degrees of detail, for the United States as a whole, each of the four major regions, States, urban and rural parts of the United States, and large metropolitan areas. Publication of the Series P-C Reports was substantially completed during 1951. Final official counts and more detailed tabulations of data from the 1950 Census will be presented in series of bulletins and, later, in bound volumes. Most of the bulletins will be issued during 1952.

The Bureau of the Census also collects current data on the population in its Current Population Survey--a monthly enumeration of a scientifically selected sample of 25,000 households. This survey yields continuing monthly data on the civilian labor force, as described below. It also provides, on an annual or less regular basis, data on selected population characteristics (such as marital status, school enrollment, household characteristics, internal migration, fertility, etc.), which are published in Current Population Reports, Series P-20. Current estimates of the size of the population and occasional population projections by the Census Bureau are presented in Current Population Reports, Series P-25. Estimates of the farm population are issued from time to time jointly by the Bureau of the

Census and the Bureau of Agricultural Economics in Series Census-BAE. The results of special censuses taken at the request and expense of local governments are published in Series P-28.

See bibliography, items 19, 21, 22.

Vital statistics. The National Office of Vital Statistics in the Public Health Service, Federal Security Agency, compiles and publishes the official national reports and analyses of vital statistics. These national reports are based on materials transmitted to the national office from the bureaus of vital statistics in the State departments of health, which serve as central agencies for the compilation of data from all the county and city government units within their jurisdictions. Annual collection of mortality statistics on a national basis was begun in 1900 and of birth statistics in 1915, but initially the birth and death registration areas included only 10 States. Only since 1933 have the national figures comprised the entire United States.

The program of the National Office of Vital Statistics includes compilation of the basic birth, death, marriage, divorce and morbidity statistics for the United States, and construction of official U.S. life tables for various racial, geographic and other population groups. The vital statistics data are published in a monthly report and in greater detail in an annual volume. The morbidity and mortality data are also published in a weekly report.

See bibliography, items 92-95.

Public health and medical care. National statistics on morbidity, covering the most common communicable diseases, have been compiled by the Public Health Service since 1912, and published since 1914. Most of these data are now compiled by the National Office of Vital Statistics, as mentioned above. Additional national morbidity statistics have been obtained by the Public Health Service by means of supplementary questions added to the Current Population Survey of the Census Bureau. The Public Health Service also from time to time conducts intensive community surveys which provide data on the incidence and prevalence of specific diseases, such as cancer, tuberculosis and venereal disease. These studies also yield information on general morbidity and medical care, and their relation to social, economic and other factors in the observed population.

The Public Health Service provides statistics on public health personnel, resources and activities; on hospital construction; and on the results of quarantine inspections. Reports on industrial absenteeism due to sickness have been prepared since 1920. An annual census of patients in hospitals for mental disease and in institutions for mental defectives and epileptics has been taken since 1926.

Significant data on illness and medical care in urban areas were collected in a National Health Survey in 1935-36. Morbidity data and data on medical, dental and hospital care for direct beneficiaries of Federal programs are also available from the Veterans Administration, Railroad Retirement Board, and the armed forces (Departments of the Army, Navy and Air Force). The longest available series on trends of illness and death is that for Army soldiers, which dates back to 1820.

See bibliography, items 95-97, 114, 125.

Social insurance and related programs

Old age, disability and survivorship. Insurance against loss of income through old age, disability or death of the breadwinner is provided in the United States under several different programs. Coverage of the population for old-age insurance is more complete than that for disability, but survivorship benefits are associated with the principal systems of old-age insurance and disability benefits.

The most comprehensive system of old-age and survivors insurance is that established by the Social Security Act of 1935, which is administered by the Social Security Administration in the Federal Security Agency. This program, which covers about 75 percent of all civilian employment, provides monthly benefits to retired workers (aged 65 and over) and specified dependents and survivors. The Railroad Retirement Act of 1935 brought railroad workers, many of whom had previously been covered by employers' pension plans, under a Federal system, which is administered by the Railroad Retirement Board. The program has been expanded since 1935 and now provides retirement, disability, survivor, sickness (temporary disability) and unemployment benefits. A degree of coordination between the railroad system and old-age and survivors insurance has been effected by provisions permitting a combination of wage credits and relating the amounts of benefits payable under the two systems in certain circumstances.

Most Federal Government employees are under the Federal civil service retirement system, established in 1920, which is administered by the Civil Service Commission and now provides retirement, disability and survivor benefits. There are also a number of separate Federal retirement systems for special groups, such as regular military personnel, judges and others.

Most State and local government employees are covered under 1700 special retirement systems, many of which also provide disability and survivor benefits. All States now have workmen's compensation systems providing cash benefits and medical care in case of occupational injury and, in some States, for illness of occupational origin. Four States have established temporary disability insurance programs with benefits, for limited periods, in case of nonoccupational illness.

Special pension programs for veterans, administered by the Veterans Administration, pay monthly pensions to disabled veterans and their dependents and survivors for service-connected disabilities and also, if the veteran or his family has less than a specified annual income, for non-service-connected disabilities.

For the old-age and survivors insurance program, the Social Security Administration publishes each month, in the Social Security Bulletin, data on the number and amount of old-age and survivors insurance benefits, by type of benefit; status of the Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund; and contributions and taxes collected. Data on applicants for account numbers, family benefits, number of insured workers, employers, workers and wages in covered employment, etc., are published quarterly, semiannually or annually. The Annual Statistical Supplement presents annual and trend data and detailed data on benefits awarded and in current-payment status by age, sex and race; on benefit amount, family status, and insured workers; on workers with wage credits, by age; and other special tabulations.

For other social insurance programs, the Social Security Bulletin publishes each month information on benefits and beneficiaries under the railroad retirement, Federal civil service and veterans' benefit programs, the State unemployment insurance programs, and the four State temporary disability insurance programs; summary data on employment service and unemployment insurance operations; status of the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund; and contributions and taxes collected under the railroad, State unemployment insurance and Federal civil service programs. Estimates of workmen's compensation payments, by State, are published annually. Estimates of benefits and benefit payments under State and local government retirement systems and the smaller Federal employee retirement systems are published in the Annual Statistical Supplement.

Selected current statistics on the railroad retirement system, such as the number of beneficiaries in various categories with comparisons for the previous month and previous year, are published by the Railroad Retirement Board in its Monthly Review. Additional data on this program are available in the Annual Report of the Railroad Retirement Board.

Detailed statistics on the veterans' programs are published in the Annual Report of the Veterans Administration. The data include the number of living veterans receiving compensation, pensions, disability allowances and retirement pay; the number of deceased veterans whose dependents are receiving compensation or pension benefits; and the amounts paid.

See bibliography, items 98-100, 114-115, 125.

Unemployment insurance. The Social Security Act of 1935 also established an unemployment insurance program which is operated by the States. Payroll contributions collected for this program are deposited to the credit of the States in an Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund administered by the Federal Government. Federal grants are made to the States for costs of operating the unemployment insurance program. The Bureau of Employment Security in the United States Department of Labor, establishes minimum standards for the conduct of the program, and advises the States on operations.

Current operating data on the program are published monthly by the Bureau of Employment Security in The Labor Market and Employment Security, with additional State figures in a monthly statistical supplement on initial claims, weeks of unemployment, weeks compensated, benefits paid, average weekly numbers insured, disqualifications, allowances to dependents, and other details. Reports on monthly employment and quarterly wages covered by State unemployment insurance systems are summarized nationally by the Bureau of Employment Security and published in a separate quarterly supplement, "Employment and Wages," which contains national and State data, by industry division or major group. The Bureau of Employment Security also compiles data, published in The Labor Market and Employment Security, on job applications and placements under the public employment service program.

Unemployment insurance for railroad workers was provided in the Railroad Retirement Act of 1935. This program is administered by the Railroad Retirement Board, which publishes monthly data on operation of the program in its Monthly Review and annual data on operations since 1938 in its Annual Report.

Readjustment allowances for unemployed and self-employed veterans, such as those provided for a period of five years after the termination of World War II, are administered by the Veterans Administration, and data on this program are included in the Annual Report.

Summary monthly and annual data on the operations of each of these unemployment insurance programs are published in the Social Security Bulletin, as noted above.

See bibliography, items 57, 59, 98, 114-115, 125.

Benchmark data from social insurance series. Tabulations of employment and payroll data for establishments covered by the old-age and survivors insurance program and the unemployment insurance program provide information on total employment and payrolls for the establishments included in the legal coverage of the programs. This information not only meets administrative needs, but also gives a measure of total, or benchmark, employment and payrolls for these establishments which is used for other statistical series.

The Federal old-age and survivors insurance program has from the beginning covered all workers in industry and commerce. Since passage of the Social Security Act Amendments of 1950, the program also covers most nonfarm self-employed workers, regularly employed farm workers, some domestic workers, some Federal, State and local government employees, and some employees of nonprofit institutions. In administering this program, the Social Security Administration obtains quarterly reports from approximately 3,600,000 employers on the number of employees in a specified pay period in the last month of the quarter, the number of employees who worked at any time during the quarter, and taxable wages for the quarter. Information from these reports, showing reporting establishments classified by size, employment and taxable wages, separately by industry, State and county, is published for the first calendar quarter of each year in County Business Patterns, with a time lag of about two years. Beginning in 1952 reports are also being collected, in connection with income-tax returns, from most self-employed persons other than farmers, and information from these reports will also be tabulated annually.

The State unemployment insurance programs cover about 1,500,000 employers in industry and commerce. The unemployment insurance system does not cover small firms (variously defined in different States), agricultural or domestic workers, government employees, nonprofit institutions, or self-employed workers. Quarterly reports obtained by the States from the employers give information on the number of employees in a specified pay period in each month of the quarter and on total and taxable wages for the quarter. Summaries of the State reports are published by the Bureau of Employment Security, as noted above, in its quarterly supplement on "Employment and Wages," with a time lag of about eight months.

Because of the extensiveness of their coverage, the old-age and survivors insurance and the unemployment insurance statistics serve important uses in connection with other statistical series, despite the limitations imposed by the legal coverage of the programs and by the time required to process large numbers of administrative reports. The employment figures from the State employment security agencies, supplemented by data from the old-age and survivors insurance program for small firms and by information from other sources for types of employment not covered by the unemployment insurance program, provide a basis for benchmarks in the current nonagricultural employment series, described below (p. 28). Information on taxable earnings from the old-age and survivors insurance program is used in conjunction with information on total wages from the quarterly State reports in estimating the "wages and salaries" component of the national income series. The data from the old-age and survivors insurance program provide information on the business population, showing the number of new employers and the number going out of business during the current year. Lists of employers covered by the program are also used

as a mailing and control list for the Censuses of Manufactures and Business; and as a source for sampling and more detailed area information in current surveys of the Census Bureau, such as the Annual Survey of Manufactures, the monthly retail trade survey, and others.

See bibliography, items 57, 99.

Employment and labor

Civilian labor force. Current information on the labor force is collected by the Bureau of the Census in its Current Population Survey, a monthly canvass of a scientifically selected sample of 25,000 households in 68 sample areas. The data are collected by Census enumerators who visit households and obtain information on the characteristics and labor market activity of each member of the household.

Current estimates of the labor force are published by the Census Bureau in the Monthly Report on the Labor Force (Current Population Reports, Series P-57). Monthly estimates are available from March 1940 to date, including revisions which have been made in the earlier data to take account of changes which have subsequently been made in sample design and collection techniques. One major purpose of this report is to provide information on as current a basis as possible. The survey covers the week including the 8th of each month, and national estimates of the total labor force, of employment in agricultural and nonagricultural industries (including self-employment), and of unemployment are issued shortly after the first of the following month. In these estimates the labor force is classified by sex, class of worker, and broad age groups; in addition, persons at work are grouped within classes by the number of hours worked during the week and the unemployed by duration of unemployment.

The Bureau of the Census also makes estimates of the gross changes in the labor force. These estimates, also based on the Current Population Survey and used in the preparation of the Monthly Report, give national figures on the number of persons who enter and leave the labor force from one month to the next, the number who shift from an employed to an unemployed status, etc. They are published annually in Series P-50.

Information on other characteristics of the labor force is published from time to time in special labor force reports, also in Series P-50. These reports present information on such subjects as characteristics of part-time workers; work experience during the course of the year; and employment status by marital status, sex, etc.

Because of the small size of the sample in the Current Population Survey, only national estimates can be derived from the present monthly survey. In April 1947, however, the sample was greatly en-

larged to make possible for that month estimates for 34 large metropolitan areas, as well as more detailed national data on population, labor force and housing characteristics.

The 1950 Census of Population provides labor force statistics, including statistics on occupation and industry, for every State, county and urban place of 2,500 or more inhabitants. Detailed cross-classifications of the data are prepared for the larger areas (States, cities of 100,000 or more, etc.), as well as for the United States and its urban and rural parts. The data, which are comparable with those from the 1940 Census of Population, are being published during 1952 in two series of bulletins (Series P-B and P-C) which are preprints of parts of Volume II, Characteristics of the Population.

See bibliography, items 19, 21, 22.

Nonagricultural employment, hours and earnings. A joint Federal-State program for collecting monthly information on employment, hours and earnings in nonagricultural establishments, classified by industry, has been developed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The program is the result of cooperation among the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Bureau of Employment Security, both in the Department of Labor, and State agencies, most of which are State employment security agencies affiliated with the Bureau of Employment Security. It is based primarily on monthly reports to the Bureau of Labor Statistics from a sample of 150,000 establishments, adjusted periodically to total (benchmark) figures provided by the State agencies and the Social Security Administration (see above, p. 26). The reports are supplemented by employment data for specific industries available from other Federal agencies--such as the Interstate Commerce Commission for railroad employment, or the Civil Service Commission for employment by the Federal Government. The estimates do not include the self-employed, domestic service workers, or unpaid family workers. The joint program has been developed since 1947, but is an extension of series prepared by the Bureau of Labor Statistics on a continuous basis since 1932.

National estimates are prepared and issued monthly, with interpretive statements, by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Employment estimates are issued for "all employees" and for production workers or nonsupervisory employees of nonagricultural establishments. Estimates of average hours worked per week and of average weekly and hourly earnings are issued for production or nonsupervisory workers only. Reports and estimates refer to pay periods ending nearest the 15th of each month. Comparable estimates for each State and approximately 100 of the largest metropolitan areas are prepared by the cooperating State agencies, using data from the same reports on which the national estimates are based and conforming to the same procedural standards.

The national estimates are published for all nonagricultural establishments and for the 8 major industry divisions: manufacturing, mining, contract construction, transportation and public utilities, trade, finance, service, and government. Within manufacturing, both all-employee and production-workers employment series are presented for 21 major manufacturing groups and 109 separate manufacturing industries. Within nonmanufacturing, total employment information is published for 23 major groups and 18 component industries, and production-worker employment is shown for the mining division as a whole and for the industry components. For the hours and earnings of production workers, national estimates are prepared for total manufacturing, with subdivisions for durable and nondurable goods industries, for 21 major groups and 200 separate manufacturing industries. For nonmanufacturing industries, 50 series are published on hours and earnings. The amount of industrial detail published for States and local areas varies from State to State, but in general is less than that available in the national estimates.

Studies of employment trends and appraisals of the long-range employment outlook in major industries, based on these and other data, are issued by the Bureau of Labor Statistics for use in planning programs of education, training and recruitment and in vocational guidance.

See bibliography, items 60-62.

Agricultural employment. National estimates of agricultural employment are issued monthly by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. These estimates are based on monthly reports collected from an average of 20,000 farmers. The data obtained in these reports are adjusted from time to time to correspond with data obtained in occasional enumerative surveys of the farm population, and are checked against the data collected in the periodic censuses of population and agriculture.

The monthly estimates include statistics on farm employment, shown separately for family workers (including farm operators) and for hired workers, by nine geographic regions and by ten type-of-farming areas. No State agricultural employment estimates are available under this program.

See bibliography, items 11, 13.

Labor turnover. The Bureau of Labor Statistics publishes monthly labor turnover rates for the United States as a whole, and for 20 major industry groups in manufacturing, 91 individual manufacturing industries, and 8 nonmanufacturing industries in mining and communications. The rates are based on reports submitted by about 7,400 cooperating establishments, covering a total of 5,300,000 employees.

Labor turnover measures the movement of wage and salary workers into and out of employment status with respect to individual firms. This movement is divided into accessions (additions to employment) and separations (terminations of employment). The separations are classified into quits (voluntary separations), discharges, layoffs, military separations, and involuntary miscellaneous separations. Each type of action is cumulated for a calendar month and expressed as a rate per 100 employees. Separate rates for each of the component items are computed for each industry for which figures are published; and separate rates for men and women are published quarterly for the 20 major industry groups in manufacturing. Turnover information is not collected separately for production workers.

Labor turnover rates are available on a comparable basis from January 1930 for manufacturing as a whole, and from 1943 for two coal mining and two communications industries. Comparable rates with the amount of industrial detail now published are available from December 1949. Rates for individual industries prior to that date are not comparable with those now published because of a revision in the industrial classification structure.

See bibliography, items 60-62.

Wage rates. Data on wages and related practices are collected by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Bureau of Agricultural Economics for general statistical use. In addition wage information is obtained by several other Federal agencies in connection with administrative operations or responsibilities.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics collects information on hourly wage rates for selected occupations in a wide variety of manufacturing and nonmanufacturing industries. Since 1947 annual studies have been made of specific industries, varying in number from about 15 to 20. Earnings data presented in these studies pertain to occupational averages and distributions for a selected list of jobs. The Bureau also attempts to provide occupational wage data on a comparable basis for other leading industries at least every two or three years. Data on overtime pay practices, shift differentials, bonuses, holiday and vacation pay, insurance plans, etc., are also obtained from the establishments visited, and a file of several thousand collective bargaining agreements is maintained in the Bureau. For many years the Bureau of Labor Statistics has collected annual data on union wage scales and hours in 77 cities for five highly organized industries--construction (also collected quarterly), printing, motor trucking, local transit, and baking. These data are published in the form of national indexes as well as city wage scales.

In 1949 the Bureau of Labor Statistics began a program of community wage surveys which will integrate several of the separate in-

dustry surveys of the Bureau. These community surveys cover office clerical, skilled maintenance, and unskilled worker occupations on a cross-industry basis, and also include other key occupations for a few industries important in each of the communities surveyed.

Increased emphasis has recently been placed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics on wage movements. A report on current wage developments is issued monthly, and detailed chronologies of wage developments over a period of years have been published for a substantial number of key companies or associations. Indexes based on various sources are being prepared for a few nonmanufacturing groups, and the development of indexes for manufacturing industries is being studied.

The Bureau of Agricultural Economics, in connection with its crop reporting program, collects quarterly information from farmers on prevailing local wage rates. Hourly, daily, weekly and monthly averages are published by States and geographical regions, and quarterly and annual indexes are computed. In addition, detailed wage rates on specific operations are obtained occasionally by interview-surveys of farm operators and agricultural workers. The data obtained in these surveys are usually by region or specialized area.

Some wage information for particular industries is collected by other Federal agencies in connection with regulatory activities. Such agencies include the Interstate Commerce Commission, the Civil Aeronautics Board, the Federal Communications Commission, and the Maritime Administration.

See bibliography, items 11, 60-62.

Productivity. Annual productivity indexes, which measure the relationship between the physical volume of goods produced and the input of labor, have been compiled by the Bureau of Labor Statistics since 1941; many of the series cover years since 1919. Changes in the ratio of output and man-hours of work show the joint effect of a large number of separate though interrelated influences, such as technical improvements, the rate of utilization of plant capacity, and the availability of materials and components, as well as the skill and effort of the work force, the efficiency of management, and the state of labor relations.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics now compiles annual indexes of output per production worker and per production worker man-hour for 23 selected manufacturing industries, 5 selected mining industries, electric light and power, telephone and telegraph, steam railroad transportation and agriculture. The indexes of output per production worker are obtained by dividing indexes of the physical volume of production by indexes of employment of production workers. The in-

dexes of output per man-hour are obtained by dividing the production indexes by indexes of production worker man-hours derived from the employment indexes and the series for average weekly hours.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics also collects detailed annual productivity data based on the direct reporting of man-hour requirements per unit of product by selected manufacturers. These studies in 1951 cover a group of about 16 manufacturing industries, for many of which productivity information has never before been available. The statistics for each industry are based on typical products or processes, and the reports yield information on trends in both direct production labor and indirect (or overhead) factory labor. Indexes are compiled for all reported products combined, for groups of related products, and for important individual products or processes. Indexes are also prepared for some industries which show average trends for companies classified by geographic area, size of plant, method of production, integration of manufacturing operations, and other pertinent categories. In addition, the reports summarize comprehensive plant survey information on the relationship between man-hour trends and the important factors in the plants which affected productivity, such as changes in machinery, work methods, the relative experience of the work force, and the design of the products.

For a limited number of plants in selected manufacturing industries, the Bureau of Labor Statistics makes detailed plant studies of productivity and factory performances. These one-time, quasi-engineering studies provide unit man-hour data in great detail, including requirements at key operations in each major factory department. The studies include comprehensive information on the characteristics of one factory operation which determine the level of productivity. For some detailed plant studies, particular reference is made to the relationship between productivity and intraplant practices of production standardization, simplification, and specialization.

See bibliography, items 60, 62.

Industrial injuries. Quarterly and annual estimates of the frequency and severity of disabling work injuries, principally in manufacturing establishments, are compiled by the Branch of Industrial Hazards in the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The estimates are based on reports submitted at regular intervals by about 50,000 establishments employing nearly 11 million workers. This office also makes detailed studies of accident causes in two industries each year to determine the accident characteristics, special hazards, and specific causes of accidents in the industries selected, with special reference to remedial measures which have been or could be undertaken.

The Bureau of Mines in the Department of the Interior collects monthly data on coal-mine injuries and annual statistics on causes

and frequency of disabling work injuries, employment, man-hours and active mine days in major mineral and mineral-processing industries.

Significant data on work injuries are available through systems of workmen's compensation (social insurance covering work injuries). In the United States workmen's compensation for almost all industries is a function of the State governments. This type of protection is provided by the Federal Government for Federal employees and certain other groups, notably longshore and harbor workers. The Federal workmen's compensation laws are administered by the Bureau of Employees' Compensation in the Department of Labor, which issues annual reports with statistics on fatal and nonfatal injuries reported under these laws, medical care provided to injured persons, and money payments made to them and their survivors.

See bibliography, items 48, 56, 60, 62.

Work stoppages. The statistical series on work stoppages (strikes and lockouts) in the United States goes back as far as 1881. Reports have been published under the various titles of "strikes and lockouts," "strikes," and "work stoppages." Fairly complete data on the number of stoppages, number of workers involved, and the amount of resulting idleness, together with various classifications of the disputes by State, industry, causes, duration, etc., are available on an annual basis from 1927 to date.

There is no legal requirement for the reporting of work stoppages to the Federal Government. After obtaining news of stoppages through reports of the various Federal and State conciliation and mediation services and the State employment security agencies, and through the daily newspapers, the Bureau of Labor Statistics obtains detailed reports by mail, from the companies and unions involved, on a voluntary basis. Statistics are released monthly on a preliminary basis showing the number of stoppages, number of workers involved, number of man-days idle and the percent this represents of the estimated working times of all industries. Annual reports give detailed analyses by location, cause, duration, basis of settlement, etc. The Bureau tries to obtain complete coverage of all strikes and lockouts which involve six or more workers and last for one or more full shifts.

See bibliography, items 60-62.

Education

In the United States, administration of the school systems is a function of the individual State governments rather than of the Federal Government. The Federal Office of Education was established in 1867 "for the purpose of collecting such statistics and facts as shall show the condition and progress of education in the several States

and Territories, and of diffusing such information...as shall aid the people of the United States in the establishment and maintenance of efficient school systems, and otherwise promote the cause of education throughout the country." The functions of the Office of Education have since been expanded to include administration of funds appropriated as grants-in-aid to education, and the conduct of special programs, such as promotion of vocational education.

The Office of Education, now located in the Federal Security Agency, collects and publishes statistics on public and private elementary and secondary schools, institutions of higher education and professional schools, as well as some schools of a specialized character. By mail or through field contacts, and by cooperation of the various State departments of education, the Office collects reports on approximately 276,500 schools on such items as expenditures; income; property; enrollments by age, grade and subjects; attendance; salaries; student and faculty personnel; and curricula offerings. An extensive statistical and textual resume of education conditions in the United States is published in the Biennial Survey of Education in the United States.

A nationwide survey of school facilities was authorized by the Congress in 1950. This survey is being conducted by the individual States and financed half by the State and half by the Federal Government. The Office of Education is responsible for over-all direction and administration of the program, and for preparation of the final report to Congress, early in 1954, on results of the survey.

Information on school enrollment and educational attainment is also collected by the Bureau of the Census in its decennial censuses of population and, every October, in the Current Population Survey. These data are collected by household interviews rather than from school systems.

See bibliography, items 19, 22, 91.

Public assistance

The Social Security Act of 1935 provided for Federal financial participation in State programs for aid to the aged, the blind, and dependent children, and the Social Security Act Amendments of 1950 provided for similar participation in aid to the permanently and totally disabled. These programs are all administered by the States, but financed in part by grants of Federal funds to the States. To receive a Federal grant for payments and administrative expenses under any of these assistance programs, a State must have a plan approved as meeting the requirements of the Social Security Act. Each State establishes the conditions under which assistance is given to individuals in these groups and determines the amount of payments.

Statistics of the number of recipients and payments under these public assistance programs are published monthly, by State, in the Social Security Bulletin, and summarized annually in the Statistical Supplement. The series are continuous since 1936 for old-age assistance, aid to the blind, and aid to dependent children; and since 1950 for aid to the permanently and totally disabled.

Aid to other needy persons is furnished principally through general assistance or relief programs of State or local governments, without Federal funds. Statistics on the number of recipients and the amount of payments under these programs are also presented in the Social Security Bulletin.

Data on concurrent receipt of public assistance payments and old-age and survivors insurance benefits, distribution of payments by amount, reasons for opening and closing cases, and source of funds for public assistance payments and administrative costs are also released by the Social Security Administration, semiannually or annually, in processed form.

See bibliography, items 98, 101.

Criminal and judicial statistics

The Federal Bureau of Investigation in the Department of Justice has served since 1930, at the request of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, as a central clearinghouse for nationwide statistics on selected classes of serious offenses known to the police. In this capacity the Bureau publishes semiannually the "Uniform Crime Reports," which include data on age, sex, race and other characteristics of persons arrested throughout the United States, based on the file of fingerprint cards which it maintains. Juvenile court statistics have been collected and published annually since 1926 by the Children's Bureau in the Social Security Administration.

The annual report on prisoners in State and Federal prisons and reformatories, begun by the Bureau of the Census in 1926, is now a part of the National Prisoner Statistics program of the Bureau of Prisons in the Department of Justice. More detailed data regarding Federal prisoners are presented in the Bureau of Prisons' annual publication, Federal Prisons. Prisoners in county and municipal penal institutions have not been enumerated on a national basis since 1933, except in connection with the decennial censuses of population. An annual series on State judicial criminal statistics, begun in 1932 by the Bureau of the Census, was discontinued in 1946.

Annual and quarterly reports on the business of United States courts, excluding the Supreme Court, have been prepared since 1939 by the Administrative Office of the United States Courts. Since 1945

this annual report has also included statistics on the United States Supreme Court.

See bibliography, items 53-55, 102.

Production

Complete census-type statistics are obtained periodically on the production of farms, manufacturing establishments, and mines. Data are also obtained on the basis of less complete coverage in each of these fields at more frequent intervals, in order to keep up to date the information obtained from the complete enumeration.

Agricultural production. A complete Census of Agriculture has been taken by personal enumeration of all farms every tenth year since 1840, and every fifth year since 1925. The most recent Census of Agriculture, taken by the Bureau of the Census in 1950 as part of the 17th Decennial Census, collected information for all farms on land tenure, acreage in farms, acreage of crops and other land uses, production and sales of agricultural products, off-farm work, and other income. In addition, information was obtained from a 20-percent sample of farms on farm labor, expenditures, equipment, mortgages, taxes, and a few minor items. Preliminary reports from the 1950 Census of Agriculture, giving national, State and county totals, were issued during 1951. Publication of the final reports, which give the final figures and more detail, will be completed in 1952.

Current statistics on agricultural production are collected primarily by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics in the Department of Agriculture. Continuous series of acreage and production of major crops and of livestock inventories extend back to 1866. In most cases the estimates are made on the basis of data reported in mailed questionnaires by samples of farmers, processors and others, adjusted to benchmark data available from the censuses of agriculture or other more frequent surveys with complete coverage.

In March of each year the Bureau receives reports on the number of acres farmers intend to plant for about 15 principal crops and a wide variety of minor crops. Data from these reports are used to estimate the total number of acres to be planted for each of these crops. In June the Bureau obtains reports from farmers on acreage planted for harvest for approximately 50 crops. The acreage figures, with reports of the July 1 condition of crops, are used in making the July forecasts of production, and thereafter monthly forecasts of production, based on condition reports, are made throughout the growing season. (For some of the earlier crops, such as winter wheat and rye, the monthly forecasts begin earlier than July.) At the end of the growing season the Bureau receives reports on the number of acres harvested and the yield per acre, and production data for most crops,

including field crops, vegetables, fruits and nuts. From these reports it prepares estimates of production for approximately 125 crops, on a national, regional and State basis. The Bureau also makes estimates of livestock inventories as of January 1, of the spring and fall pig crops, and monthly estimates throughout the year of livestock slaughter and production of dairy and poultry products.

See bibliography, items 5, 7, 8, 13, 23.

Manufacturing production. Complete Censuses of Manufactures, covering manufacturing activity in the preceding year, were taken as part of the decennial censuses from 1850 through 1900, at five-year intervals through 1920, and thereafter every second year through 1940. During World War II the biennial Census of Manufactures was suspended. The first postwar Census of Manufactures was that covering the year 1947, taken early in 1948. In 1948 the Congress enacted new census legislation (Public Law 671), which provided that censuses of manufactures, mineral industries, business, and transportation should be taken together at five-year intervals, in the years ending in "4" and "9." Thus the next Census of Manufactures will be taken in 1954, covering activity in 1953.

The Census of Manufactures obtains information on the quantity and value of products, value added by manufacture, and plant operations, including employment, payrolls, consumption of materials, inventories, expenditures for new plant and equipment, etc. Results of the census are published in a series of separate "Industry Pamphlets" and "State Pamphlets," and final reports in a series of bound volumes. For the 1947 Census of Manufactures, a series of 82 industry bulletins covering approximately 460 industries and separate bulletins for each of the 48 States and the District of Columbia were published by the Census Bureau--most of them in 1949. Final results were issued in 1950 in a series of volumes and separate bulletins.

With the shift of the Census of Manufactures from a two-year to a five-year basis, the Census Bureau initiated the Annual Survey of Manufactures. There was general agreement that annual intercensal surveys were needed to meet the need for census-type industrial statistics in the five-year interval between censuses. These Annual Surveys bring up to date the basic measures of manufacturing activity (shipments of classes of products, man-hours, inventories, cost of materials consumed, value added by manufacture, and expenditures for new plant and equipment). The first Annual Surveys covered the years 1949 and 1950, and were based on a sample of about 45,000 representative manufacturing establishments out of a total of about 240,000.

The Bureau of the Census publishes more current data for important manufactured products in the "Facts for Industry" reports. This series consists of about 60 monthly, quarterly or annual reports on

shipments, production, stocks, and orders for specific products in the following groups: processed foods, textile mill products, apparel and leather, wood products and pulp and paper, chemicals, fats and oils, nonmetallic minerals products, primary metals, intermediate metal products, and machinery and transportation equipment.

Some statistics on the production of commodities are published by other agencies incident to their administrative activities. For example, data on alcoholic beverages and industrial alcohol are published by the Bureau of Internal Revenue in the Treasury Department, and data on organic chemicals by the United States Tariff Commission.

See bibliography, items 24-26.

Mineral production. A Census of Mineral Industries was taken every ten years, as part of the decennial census, from 1840 to 1940. The new census legislation enacted in 1948 (see above, p. 37) directs the Bureau of the Census to take a Census of Mineral Industries every five years, together with the censuses of manufactures, business, and transportation. The census which should have been taken in 1949 was omitted, however, because the Congress did not appropriate the necessary funds. The next Census of Mineral Industries is scheduled to be taken in 1954, covering the year 1953.

In the most recent census, taken in 1940 covering the year 1939, information was obtained on production of all minerals in terms of quantity and value; number of operating companies; number of mines, quarries and oil wells; persons engaged; salaries and wages; contract work; supplies, materials and fuel used; expenditures for buildings, machinery and equipment; size of establishment; and number and rated capacity of power equipment. In addition the 1939 Census included information on man-shifts, man-hours, output per man-hour, and number of power loading machines. For most of the mineral industries, data obtained in the Census are classified by State, and selected statistics are presented by county. Preliminary results of the Census were published in separate reports dealing with specific mineral industries, and final results in two bound volumes, one presenting a general summary and industry statistics, and the other giving State and county statistics.

The main source of current statistical information on minerals is the Bureau of Mines in the Department of the Interior, which collects annual statistics for all minerals of commercial importance and more frequent data for a smaller number. These annual statistics are published in the Minerals Yearbook, which has been issued under varying titles each year since 1882. The Yearbook gives data on the quantity and value of all minerals produced in the United States, as well as data on mineral imports and exports, prices, employment in major mineral industries, and some information on the consumption and stocks

of important minerals and on foreign mineral production, by countries. The book is composed of separate chapters, including chapters on important individual minerals, on mineral production in each of the several principal nonferrous metal-producing States, on world production of minerals, and on the salient developments and statistics of the United States mineral industry as a whole. Copies of the bound Minerals Yearbook are generally available for distribution in October of the second year following the year to which the figures relate. Individual chapters are also available as separate reports, in most cases well in advance of the publication of the complete volume.

For a number of the more important minerals, the Bureau of Mines also collects and issues weekly, monthly or quarterly data on production, consumption, shipments and inventory. Advance releases are also issued on the more important annual figures which later appear in the Yearbook chapters.

See bibliography, items 47, 49.

Index of industrial production. The Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System computes a monthly index of industrial production, with 1935-39 as 100. This index is made up of two major divisions: mineral production, composed of 9 mineral production series; and manufacturing production, composed of 92 component series on manufacturing production, consumption, and shipments, and man-hours of employment or machine-hours of activity in the manufacturing industries. The man-hour and machine-hour data are adjusted for changes in the volume of product per hour on the basis of comprehensive data compiled quarterly, annually, biennially or quinquennially by the Bureau of the Census and other agencies.

The minerals production index is subdivided into fuels and metals. The manufacturing production index is subdivided into durable manufactures and nondurable manufactures and also into 16 subgroups: iron and steel; machinery; transportation equipment; nonferrous metals and products; lumber and products; stone, clay, and glass products; textiles and products; leather and products; manufactured food products; alcoholic beverages; tobacco products; paper and products; printing and publishing; petroleum and coal products; chemical products; and rubber products.

Index numbers with and without seasonal adjustments are available for most of the individual series as well as for each group and subgroup of mineral and manufacturing industries from 1919 to date. The index of industrial production for current months is published in detail in the Federal Reserve Bulletin, and also in the Survey of Current Business. Figures for past years are available in convenient form in the biennial Statistical Supplement issued by the Survey of Current Business.

An extensive revision of the index is under way, involving better coverage, changes in the weights used, and a shift to a postwar base. In the revision, which will be available late in 1952, Federal Reserve is using Census benchmark indexes of manufacturing production in 1947 relative to 1939, based on data from the 1947 and 1939 Censuses of Manufactures. These benchmark indexes were constructed jointly by the Census Bureau and the Federal Reserve Board and are being published by the two agencies in a joint volume which gives separate indexes for 18 broad industry groups and for 217 industries.

See bibliography, items 24, 73.

Distribution and service trades

Wholesale, retail and service trades. Legislation passed in 1929 directed that a census of distribution be taken every ten years as part of the decennial censuses. Complete Censuses of Business were taken in 1930 and 1940, covering activity in the preceding year. Two special Censuses of Business were also taken in 1933 and 1935. The census legislation enacted in 1948, as noted above (p. 37), changed the timing of the censuses and provided that censuses of business, manufactures, mineral industries and transportation be taken together at five-year intervals. Under this legislation a Census of Business was taken covering activity in 1948, and the next census will be taken in 1954, covering the year 1953.

The 1948 Census of Business, covering retail, wholesale, and selected service trades, obtained information on the number and size of establishments, total sales, sales by commodity lines, employment, operating expenses, and other data, by kind of business, size of establishment, and geographical area. The results of the Census were issued during 1950 and 1951 in a series of Area Bulletins (with separate bulletins for retail, wholesale, and service trades for each State and the United States as a whole) and Subject Bulletins (with bulletins on size of establishment, multi-unit firms, legal form of ownership, credit, sales by class of customer, and other general statistics). There were also bulletins on "Analysis of Merchandise Line Sales" for groups of related kinds of retail trade and a single bulletin on "Sales by Commodity Lines" for wholesale trade. Final results were also issued in a series of seven bound volumes, published during 1951 and the first half of 1952. A series of 14 Trade Reports was also published in 1952, presenting in compact form statistics on motion picture distribution and exhibition, and the automotive, jewelry, furniture, electrical goods, and other selected trades.

The Bureau of the Census compiles and publishes current statistics on wholesale and retail trade to supplement the information obtained in the quinquennial Census of Business. For wholesale trade, monthly data on trends in sales and inventories and estimates of ac-

tual sales and inventories (furnished by the Office of Business Economics) are published, by kind of business, for the United States as a whole and for the major geographic regions. These data are based on reports from about 4,000 wholesale establishments. For retail trade, the Census Bureau compiles and publishes monthly estimates of total sales, by kind of business, for the country as a whole. These monthly publications also contain trend data on retail sales, by kind of business, for the United States and for selected large areas, and for all retail trade combined for a considerable number of cities and other selected areas. The retail reports are collected through use of a current mailing list covering large establishments and multi-unit firms and area samples designed primarily to cover the small establishments. The Bureau of the Census also compiles and publishes annually retail sales-inventory ratios by kind of business for the country as a whole.

Monthly indexes of department store sales and inventories and weekly indexes of department store sales are compiled by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and by each of the twelve Federal Reserve Banks for its district. The Board also compiles and publishes monthly and annual statistics on consumer credit. Current financial data on corporations engaged in retail and wholesale trade are described below, under "Financial reports on business."

See bibliography, items 27, 28, 40, 73.

Marketing of agricultural products. Through its Market News Reports, the Production and Marketing Administration in the Department of Agriculture publishes current information on the marketing of agricultural commodities, including cotton, wool, livestock, meats, dairy and poultry products, fruits and vegetables, grain, tobacco, and naval stores. These reports vary in frequency, kinds of data contained, and markets covered for different commodities and different seasons of the year. The kinds of information published in various Market News Reports include data on quality and prices of important farm products, arrivals in specific markets, commodity movements, and market conditions. Daily reports are issued in bulletin form at important marketing centers, and made available to press and radio to give timely information on supply and demand conditions, price quotations and other data for important crops. Many of the reports which are issued daily or weekly by the field offices or the Washington headquarters of the Production and Marketing Administration are summarized in monthly or annual reports.

Monthly and annual data on the marketing and transportation of farm products are compiled by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics in the Department of Agriculture. The monthly report on "The Marketing and Transportation Situation" presents a summary, with statistical tables, of such data as price spreads between the farmer and the

consumer, analysis of these spreads, marketing charges, consumer expenditures for foods, the share of the consumer's dollar received by the farmer for farm products. Data for the past year and comparisons with preceding years are presented in the annual volume of Agricultural Statistics.

See bibliography, items 5, 9, 13, 17.

Prices

Wholesale prices. Monthly and weekly wholesale price indexes are computed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics in the Department of Labor. An official monthly index has been prepared since 1902; the official series has been carried back to 1890, and the index has been estimated, on an annual basis, back to 1749. The Bureau completed a revision of the index for January 1952, based upon approximately 5,000 price quotations for about 2,000 commodities. These prices are classified into 15 major groups and 88 subgroups.

The index is designed to show the general rate and direction of the composite of price movements in primary markets, and the specific rates and directions of price movements for individual commodities or groups of commodities. The price data used are those which apply at primary market levels--that is, the first important commercial transaction for each commodity. Most of the quotations are for selling prices of representative manufacturers or producers, or prices quoted on organized exchanges or markets. The weights employed in the index are based on the dollar value of transactions in 1947. All sales of goods by or to manufacturers or producers (except those sales which represent interplant transfers within the same company) are included in the basic weights. Monthly index numbers and average prices are published for most of the commodities included in the index.

Beginning in 1932 a weekly index has been computed in order to provide a more current estimate of price changes since the last published monthly index. From 1932 to 1948 coverage of the weekly index was the same as that of the monthly. From 1948 through February 1952 the weekly index was based on a sample of commodities priced for the monthly index. When the comprehensive revision was made in 1952, the weekly index was revised and is now calculated as a percent change from the latest published monthly index and represents the Bureau's best estimate of what the comprehensive index would be if all 5,000 individual prices were collected and the complete index calculated weekly. It is based on the actual prices of a small sample (fewer than 200 commodities) of the commodities included in the monthly index and on the estimated prices for all other commodities. It is not maintained as a historical series.

See bibliography, items 60-62.

Retail prices. The Bureau of Labor Statistics prepares a Consumers' Price Index designed to measure changes in prices paid by city families with moderate incomes for a fixed quantity of goods and services. The index is a price barometer, not a measure of changes in the total amount spent by city families for living expenses. It is based upon retail prices of food, clothing, housefurnishings, rents, and miscellaneous goods and services (such as transportation, recreation, public utilities, dental and medical costs, and a variety of household supplies).

The index was initiated in World War I for use in wage negotiations, particularly in shipbuilding centers. Coverage was gradually extended to additional industrial cities throughout the country. Annual estimates are available for 1913-18; more frequent indexes (usually semiannual) for 1919-35; quarterly indexes for January 1936 through June 1940; and monthly indexes for the period beginning September 1940.

Since July 1947 the monthly index has been based on food prices in 56 cities and fuel prices in 34 cities, and upon prices of other commodities and services (except rent) for 18 of the 34 cities every month. The 18 cities include 10 key cities of the 34 each month, and 8 of the remaining 24 on a rotating quarterly cycle. Data on rents are reported quarterly. Prices for the index are collected by specially trained agents of the Bureau of Labor Statistics on about 210 goods and services; for many of these items prices are collected on more than one quality. The weights assigned the various goods and services were derived from a detailed study of annual consumer expenditures during the period 1934-36.

In January 1951 the Bureau released an adjusted index. Changes introduced were: (1) Correction of the rent index to reflect higher rents charged for rental units built during rent control; (2) use of 1950 population data in combining the individual city indexes into the national index; and (3) revision of group weights and some commodity weights, to reflect more adequately the current pattern of family spending.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics is now engaged in a comprehensive revision of the Consumers' Price Index, and it is expected that the revised index will be available early in 1953. The new index will differ from the old with respect to the number and types of commodities and services priced, the cities included, and the retailers visited. New weights are being established for the revised index based on consumer expenditure data for the year 1950 obtained in a nationwide survey in the spring of 1951.

See bibliography, items 60-62.

Prices paid by farmers. The Bureau of Agricultural Economics in the Department of Agriculture prepares an index of prices paid by farmers to measure changes in prices paid by farmers for commodities and services used in family living and farm production. The family living section is based upon retail prices for food (including tobacco), clothing, automobiles and automobile supplies, household furnishings, household operations, and building materials used in the construction of houses. The farm production section is based upon retail prices for feed, livestock purchased, motor vehicles, motor supplies, farm machinery, building and fencing materials, fertilizer and lime, equipment and supplies, and seeds. Information on interest payments per acre on indebtedness secured by real estate, tax payments per acre on farm real estate, and cash wages for hired farm labor is combined with the indexes for family living and farm production to form the more comprehensive "Index of prices paid by farmers, including interest, taxes, and farm wage rates."

The index was first published in 1928. Annual estimates are available from 1910, quarterly indexes from 1924, and monthly indexes from January 1937 to date. The index is known as the parity index, since one of its important uses is in calculating parity prices for farm products each month, pursuant to the Agricultural Adjustment Act and subsequent statutes.

The index is currently based upon prices for 310 items, of which 31 are included in both the family living and production indexes. Prices are reported by several thousand retail merchants. Prices for feed and livestock purchased are collected each month; seed prices are collected for five months during the planting seasons; prices for motor vehicles and fertilizer are collected twice a year; and prices for most of the other items are collected quarterly. Prices reported by several hundred chain stores are used to indicate changes in the interquarterly months for prices reported by independent stores on a quarterly basis. Prices reported for a commodity are averaged for each State, and each State average is weighted by the estimated purchases of the commodity by farmers in that State to obtain an average for the country as a whole. The current index is based upon weights representing purchases in 1937-41.

See bibliography, items 10, 13.

Prices received by farmers. A monthly index of prices received by farmers is also published by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. This index is based on average prices received by farmers for their products sold at local markets, or at the point to which farmers deliver their products. Mid-month prices of commodities sold by farmers were first collected in 1908 for crops, and in 1910 for livestock and livestock products. The index was first published in 1921, with monthly series available from January 1910.

Prices for over 100 of the more important agricultural commodities are collected monthly; prices for nearly 100 additional items are collected on an annual or season-average basis. Prices are based on reports from about 10,000 correspondents which may be classified in the following broad groups: (1) country merchants; (2) farm produce dealers at local shipping points; (3) country mill and elevator operators; (4) managers of local creameries and milk receiving stations; (5) cooperative marketing organizations; (6) country bankers; (7) well informed farmers. In the current index, prices of individual commodities are weighted by average annual sales for the period 1937-41 to form group indexes; the group indexes are combined by weighting each group in proportion to the percentage of total value of sales represented by the commodities in that group. Group indexes are available for food grains, feed grains and hay, cotton, tobacco, oil-bearing crops, fruits, truck crops, other vegetables, meat animals, dairy products, poultry and eggs, and wool. Average prices by States, geographic regions and for the United States, are available for most of the individual items.

The monthly price series are combined into the over-all index of prices received by farmers. This index is compared with the index of prices paid, including interest, taxes and wage rates, to establish the general parity price position of agricultural commodities.

Information on wholesale prices of agricultural commodities is discussed above, under "Marketing of agricultural products."

See bibliography, items 5, 10, 13.

Finance

Federal Government finance. Data on the financial operations of the Federal Government, which are now recognized as a dominant factor in our monetary and credit system, are compiled primarily by the Treasury Department and published in the Annual Report of the Secretary of the Treasury on the State of the Finances, the monthly Treasury Bulletin, and the Daily Statement of the United States Treasury. The statistical series on Treasury receipts, expenditures and surplus or deficit date back to 1789, and the series on the public debt dates back to 1791. The annual Budget of the United States, issued by the Bureau of the Budget, presents comprehensive and detailed statistics on the Federal financial program including data on obligations by activity and object for the previous year and estimates for the current and coming fiscal year.

The Federal Government also plays an important role in the network of financial institutions through a group of Government agencies with specialized functions of a financial nature. These include lending institutions such as the Farm Credit Administration and the

Farmers Home Administration in the Department of Agriculture, the Federal Home Loan Banks, the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, and the Veterans Administration; and insurance agencies such as the Federal Housing Administration, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation in the Department of Agriculture, and, again, the Veterans Administration. The Postal Savings System administered by the Post Office Department performs a savings bank function. Statistics on the operations of such agencies are available through annual reports or more frequent releases of the individual agencies, as well as in systematic summary data published periodically by the Treasury Department.

See bibliography, items 1, 12, 15, 65-67, 84, 105-106, 125.

Monetary and banking statistics. Detailed statistics are available from the Federal Government on money, the central banking system, and the privately owned commercial and mutual savings banks.

The Treasury Department is the source of various data on money and the precious metals including statistics on gold production and reserves, mint operations, stock and circulation of money, and operations of the Exchange Stabilization Fund.

The Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System issues extensive data, on a weekly, monthly and annual basis, on the operations of the twelve Federal Reserve Banks which comprise the central banking mechanism. These data indicate, among other things, the monetary reserves of the Federal Reserve Banks and the expansion or contraction by the Federal Reserve Banks of "reserve bank credit," which influences the level of member bank reserve balances. The level of member bank reserves under our system of fractional reserve requirements determines at any one time the amount of credit that can be extended by the banking system.

Many of the banks in the country are Federally chartered and regulated by the Comptroller of the Currency in the Treasury Department. These and still others are affiliated as "member" banks of the Federal Reserve System. Moreover, most of the banks in the country are associated with the Federal Government through the system of bank deposit insurance administered by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. The three Federal agencies thus chiefly concerned with banking--Treasury, Federal Reserve, and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation--share responsibility for a coordinated statistical program covering the condition and operation of banks. This program includes, notably, the semiannual (more frequent for certain banks) statistics showing balance-sheet data in considerable detail for substantially all insured banks (covering the bulk of the banking system) and including information on types of loans outstanding, securities owned, and the amounts and kinds of liabilities to depositors.

Earnings, expenses, and dividend statements from all insured banks are tabulated annually, with an additional semiannual tabulation for banks that are members of the Federal Reserve System. Among the other series available are monthly and more detailed semiannual summary data on all banks, by types: weekly information reflecting the operation of selected banks in leading cities; weekly data for a sample of banks on business loans by industry of borrower; quarterly information on interest rates on commercial loans charged by banks in leading cities; weekly and monthly data on volume of checks drawn against bank deposit accounts; monthly data on bank loans to consumers; semiannual and annual data on the number of banks and branches and on changes in the banking system occurring through the issuance of new charters, failures, or other reasons.

The banking data appear in one or more of the publications of the three agencies, each of which emphasizes the aspects closest to its own responsibilities: "national banks" by the Comptroller of the Currency; "member banks" and central banking by the Federal Reserve System; and "insured banks" by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. Federal Reserve, because of its special responsibility for the ebb and flow of bank credit, combines data for the Treasury and the banking system in special series designed to throw light on changes in the assets and liabilities of banks and the monetary system.

See bibliography, items 68-69, 71, 72-76, 84-85.

Securities markets. The Securities and Exchange Commission is the primary source of Federal statistics on the issuance of securities, trading on securities exchanges, and other aspects of the securities markets. Important series of this agency include summary monthly data on new security issues, both public and private, in the United States; more detailed quarterly data, including costs of flotation, on those issues which are required to be registered with the Commission; monthly data on the volume and value of trading on securities exchanges; weekly price data on common stocks listed on exchanges; and periodic summaries of the cost of flotation of registered issues.

The Treasury Department provides detailed current data on Government securities, including characteristics, amounts outstanding, distribution of ownership, prices and yields; and computes a monthly average yield for high-grade corporate bonds. The Federal Reserve System issues monthly data on stock exchange firms, including their borrowings and their loans to customers for securities trading.

See bibliography, items 65-67, 73, 116-117.

Financial reports on business. Current data on business finances are provided through a financial reporting program conducted jointly by the Federal Trade Commission and the Securities and Exchange Com-

mission. Beginning with 1947, this program has obtained quarterly profit-and-loss and balance-sheet information from manufacturing corporations. For calendar year 1951 similar information was also obtained from a sample of wholesale and retail trade corporations. The Securities and Exchange Commission collects the data from the corporations registered with it, while the Federal Trade Commission collects from a sample, stratified by size and industry, of the nonregistered corporations. The information is published in Quarterly Financial Reports, issued jointly by the two agencies. The Securities and Exchange Commission also publishes quarterly data on the working capital of all U.S. corporations except banks and insurance companies.

Historical data on the finances of private business enterprises are presented in Statistics of Income, based on Federal income tax returns and published by the Bureau of Internal Revenue in the Treasury Department. There is a time lag of several years between the collection and publication of these data.

Information on actual and anticipated capital expenditures is collected quarterly by the Securities and Exchange Commission from registered corporations, and by the Office of Business Economics in the Department of Commerce from a sample of unregistered companies. Capital expenditure estimates are prepared jointly by the two agencies. Financial data for various special types of business, such as railroads, motor carriers, and certain utilities, are collected and published as a result of special regulations in these fields. (See section on "Transportation and utilities," below.)

See bibliography, items 40, 70, 103, 118, 120.

Other financial institutions and processes. Additional data are available on various other financial institutions or processes. The Home Loan Bank Board in the Housing and Home Finance Agency issues statistics on savings and loan associations. The Federal Reserve System publishes monthly data on consumer loans of small loan companies, industrial banks, industrial loan companies, credit unions, miscellaneous lenders, and sales finance companies. Federal Reserve also prepares several series on the short-term money market, concerned with commercial paper and bankers' acceptance outstanding and with open market money rates in New York City. The Treasury Department provides monthly data on the international movement of capital, and Federal Reserve on foreign exchange rates.

There is no point of central responsibility for insurance company statistics in the Federal Government. Data on insurance company investments of particular types, however, are available from several sources: the Department of Agriculture (farm mortgage loans and real estate), the Home Loan Bank Board (nonfarm mortgages), and the Treasury Department (Government securities).

Many other statistical series might be mentioned which are "financial" in the broader sense of the term which includes a large share of economic data. Some of these series, such as the balance of international payments, are described in other sections of this report. Others include the wide range of agricultural data, including information on farm land values, taxes, income, short-term and mortgage debt, and insurance, issued by the Department of Agriculture and the Bureau of the Census; statistics on nonfarm mortgage finance issued by the Home Loan Bank Board and the Census Bureau; and information on retail sale credit, issued by the Census Bureau and the Federal Reserve System. Through the efforts of several Federal agencies including Federal Reserve, the Bureau of the Mint, the Bureau of Mines, a considerable body of monetary and financial statistics for foreign countries is brought together and published.

See bibliography, items 12, 66, 73, 75, 85, 106.

State and local governments

Financial and employment statistics of State and local governments are collected and published by the Governments Division of the Bureau of the Census. From 1850 through 1900 some information on State and local governments was obtained in connection with the decennial censuses of population. Beginning in 1902 special censuses were taken at decennial intervals covering all governmental units in the nation--States, counties, cities, towns, townships, school districts and special districts of various kinds. There are approximately 120,000 such units now in existence.

An act of Congress approved in September 1950 directs that a Census of Governments be taken in 1952 and at five-year intervals thereafter, but the actual taking of each census will still depend, of course, on whether funds are appropriated for that purpose. These censuses obtain data on numbers of governments in existence; taxes and other governmental receipts, public expenditures, borrowing and indebtedness; and employment and payrolls. The reports published show national and State totals, and comparative statistics for the larger governmental units. Studies of special topics, such as inter-governmental fiscal relations and public employee retirement systems, are also usually published as part of the census.

Current statistics on State and local governments published by the Census Bureau include an annual report on State finances which dates back to 1915, and a similar report on finances of large cities which was begun in 1898. National totals, by type of government, are also published annually for governmental revenue and debt, and quarterly for public employment and payrolls. These data are based on reports collected from all States and large local governmental units and a sample of the smaller local governments.

In addition to these statistics covering all functions of State and local governments, data on particular functions or activities are published by various Federal agencies. Thus--to mention only three examples--the Office of Education in the Federal Security Agency publishes detailed information on school systems; the Bureau of Public Roads in the Department of Commerce publishes statistics on Federal, State and local roads and highways; and the National Park Service in the Department of the Interior publishes expenditure and revenue data for State as well as national parks.

See bibliography, items 31-33, 60.

Construction

The most important Federal statistics on construction activity are the monthly estimates of the value of work put in place. These estimates are prepared jointly by the Department of Commerce and the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Estimates of private nonresidential construction activity are primarily the responsibility of the Construction Division in the National Production Authority, Department of Commerce. Publicly financed construction of all types and housing construction activity are primarily the responsibility of the Division of Construction Statistics in the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Estimates of privately financed nonresidential construction such as stores, warehouses and factories are based primarily on F.W. Dodge Company and Engineering News Record reports of construction contracts awarded. Public utility construction estimates are derived from data reported by the Interstate Commerce Commission and other Federal regulatory agencies, and by private associations such as the American Gas Association and the American Transit Association.

A considerable number of Federal agencies administer construction programs or award contracts for construction; some of them engage in construction themselves. In this field construction activity data are derived by the Bureau of Labor Statistics from the reports of the respective Federal agencies. Data on State and local governmental construction activity are obtained from F.W. Dodge Company, Engineering News Record, other trade reports, and reports from some State and local governments.

Estimates of residential construction activity, including number of housing units started, average construction costs and number of units per structure, are based upon reports of building permits granted received from approximately 6,000 permit-granting authorities. Field surveys on a sample basis are used to obtain data on construction activity in nonpermit areas. Sample field surveys are also conducted occasionally in permit areas to determine such factors as the proportion of permits allowed to lapse, the time lag between the grant

of the permit and the date of start, the conversion of permit valuation into contract valuation and the length of the building period.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics also publishes monthly data on building construction authorized by local building permits, including residential and nonresidential building and additions and alterations. The number of localities included in this series has increased from fewer than 100 in 1920, when the collection began, to nearly 6,000 in 1952.

Additional data on housing construction have been collected at different times to meet special needs. For example, in 1946-47 the Bureau of Labor Statistics expanded its work to provide for the Housing and Home Finance Agency national and area estimates of starts, completions, and construction cost of permanent nonfarm dwellings. In the period 1949-51 the Bureau of Labor Statistics collected quarterly data in 15 metropolitan areas on the number of dwelling units started and their characteristics, such as type of structure, construction cost, exterior material, size, and facilities; and data on sales prices and rentals of new housing completed in 10 metropolitan areas. Early in 1951, at the request of the Housing and Home Finance Agency, the Bureau of Labor Statistics conducted two "residential builder panel surveys" in 47 areas. One of these provided the first national estimates of the basic structure and size of operations of residential builders, and the other gave estimates of the volume and nature of residential construction being planned. The latter study was made to obtain information on the effect of housing credit regulations issued on October 12, 1950.

See bibliography, items 39, 60-62, 104.

Housing

Censuses of Housing were taken in 1940 and 1950 as part of the decennial censuses. Both housing censuses obtained data on type of structure, year built, tenure, color of occupants, number of rooms, persons per room, condition, rent or value, and facilities (such as water, toilet, bath, kitchen sink, refrigeration and heating). In 1940 data on mortgages on owner-occupied homes were collected as part of the census enumeration. In 1950 mortgage data were obtained after the regular census enumeration in a follow-up survey of a sample of both owner- and tenant-occupied homes. Information was obtained on the type of mortgage and mortgagee, and on the amount, term and interest rate of the mortgage.

Preliminary tabulations based on a sample from the 1950 Census of Housing were made available in 1951, showing principal housing characteristics for the United States, Census regions, 10 largest States, and 57 metropolitan areas. Regular tabulations for blocks

and other small areas (roughly comparable to the data in Volumes I and II of the 1940 Housing Census) will be available by mid-1952; and tabulations for the more detailed analytical series and of the mortgage data will be available by late 1952.

Through its Current Population Survey the Bureau of the Census collected limited data on housing characteristics, roughly comparable to the information obtained in the censuses, in October 1944 (Series H-45), November 1945 (Series H-46), April 1947 and May 1948 (Series P-70 and P-71).

Data on housing rents are collected by the Bureau of Labor Statistics for its Consumers' Price Index, described above under "Retail prices." The Bureau of Labor Statistics also estimates housing construction activity, as described in the preceding section.

See bibliography, items 20-22, 104.

Transportation and utilities

Data in the fields of transportation and utilities are collected and published by the respective regulatory commissions. Thus the Interstate Commerce Commission and the Civil Aeronautics Board publish data on the traffic, operations, equipment, finances, employment and accidents of the transportation facilities subject to their respective jurisdictions. The Federal Communications Commission publishes data on financial and operating aspects of the telephone, telegraph, and the radio and television broadcasting industries. The Federal Power Commission publishes data on the operations, equipment, rates and finances of electric and natural gas utilities.

See bibliography, items 37-38, 77-81, 82-83, 86-90, 108-111.

Foreign trade and shipping

The official foreign trade statistics of the United States are compiled and published by the Foreign Trade Division of the Bureau of the Census. These data are compiled from import entries and export declarations filed by importers or exporters with Collectors of Customs at the time of import or export. The Bureau of the Census compiles the quantity and value of imports and exports by commodity, by customs district of importation or exportation and by country of origin or destination. Alaska, Hawaii and Puerto Rico are customs districts of the United States and hence their trade is included with that of the rest of the United States. The commodity detail for imports is based on some 5,700 commodity classes, and for exports on about 2,900 classes. These classifications are generally convertible to the Standard International Trade Classification issued by the United Nations.

The Census Bureau also publishes vessel shipping statistics, including the number and registered tons of vessels entering and clearing U.S. ports and the value and shipping weight of import, export and in-transit shipments. These statistics are presented in shipping commodity detail by port of lading and unlading, by dry cargo or tanker, and by flag of vessel (U.S. vs. foreign); and for dry cargo by the type of service (liner vs. irregular).

The Corps of Engineers of the Army publishes data on cargo movements for the principal waterways and ports of the United States. The Maritime Administration is responsible for preparation of statistics on cargo movements in the deep sea domestic (including noncontiguous) trades.

See bibliography, items 29-30, 42-43, 46.

Balance of international payments; Government foreign transactions

Comprehensive data on the United States "balance of payments" are published by the Office of Business Economics in the Department of Commerce. Its reports summarize the economic transactions between residents of the United States and those of other countries, including "unilateral transfers" such as gifts, reparations, contributions, etc., whether in cash or in kind.

Annual summaries have been issued in substantially their present form for each year since 1919, and quarterly statements have been published since 1946. Supplementary data are available quarterly or annually on transactions with major geographic areas (and for some series with individual countries); and annually on the debtor-creditor position of the United States. Balance-of-payments statistics are published quarterly in the Survey of Current Business. Data on the debtor-creditor position of the United States appear annually in the Foreign Commerce Weekly. Comprehensive and detailed presentations of both types of data appear in occasional special bulletins covering a period of several years.

In 1951 the Office of Business Economics began a complete survey of private United States direct investments abroad as of December 31, 1950, which will provide a new benchmark for the quarterly and annual estimates of capital movements and income on direct investments.

Detailed quarterly statements of the volume and nature of United States Government foreign aid are also published by the Office of Business Economics. The Clearing Office for Foreign Transactions, located in the Office of Business Economics, maintains a consolidated record of all Government expenditures abroad, by agency, program, and geographic area. Its statistical reports contain breakdowns of aid provided under all past and present programs, as well as grants and

credits tables showing the national recipients and purposes of such aid. For the most part the records begin with the fiscal year 1941, although additional information on earlier years is available. Considerable supplemental data on the terms and circumstances of these and other foreign transactions exists, and special reports are published from time to time.

See bibliography, items 40-41, 43.

Consumer income, expenditures and savings

At present segments of the statistical data on consumer incomes, expenditures and savings are collected by different agencies, usually in conjunction with other statistical programs.

Data on the amount and source of income were collected in the 1950 Census of Population from a 20-percent sample of the population. These data will make it possible for the first time to show the distribution of families by income level for every region, State and county and for every city with more than 10,000 population. Preliminary tabulations of the family income data have been presented in separate releases in the Census Bureau's Series P-C Reports, and the final detailed tabulations, including income of persons by occupation, industry and personal characteristics, will be available by the end of 1952.

More current information on the distribution of consumer incomes is obtained from several sources. In its Current Population Survey (see "Civilian labor force" above), the Bureau of the Census has collected data once each year since 1945 on total income in the preceding year. These data have provided national estimates of the distribution of families or persons by income levels, with related information on age, occupation and other characteristics. The distributions are presented in the Census Bureau's Current Population Reports, Series P-60. Since 1946 the Federal Reserve Board has sponsored annually a sample field survey of consumer finances in which national data are obtained on distribution of consumer incomes, actual and intended expenditures for selected durable goods, ownership and use of liquid and nonliquid assets, and consumer savings. The survey findings are published in the Federal Reserve Bulletin.

In constructing estimates of income distribution the data obtained in these surveys are used in a context of data available from other sources, such as administrative records of the Bureau of Internal Revenue and the Social Security Administration, estimates of national income and expenditures prepared by the Department of Commerce, estimates of earnings prepared by the Department of Labor, and estimates of farm incomes prepared by the Department of Agriculture. A consistent adjusted distribution of families and individuals by in-

come level, based on data from these sources, is published by the Council of Economic Advisers in its report on the economic situation.

The most comprehensive recent collection of data on expenditures of urban consumers, with related data on incomes and savings, was made in 1951 in a nationwide survey conducted by the Bureau of Labor Statistics to provide a basis for new weights in the revision of the Consumers' Price Index. This survey--the largest since the 1935-36 study of a one-percent sample of the nation's households, both urban and rural--covered a sample of over 17,000 families representing the total urban population of the United States.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics has also made a number of small surveys to collect expenditure data for individual cities. For each of the years 1946 through 1948 information was collected in three cities, and for 1949 in one city. For rural families, a number of studies, restricted in scope and coverage, have been made in recent years by the Department of Agriculture.

See bibliography, items 3, 19, 22, 40, 70, 73, 119.

National income and product

Estimates of national income, gross and net national product, and related series are prepared by the National Income Division in the Office of Business Economics, Department of Commerce. These basic measures of the national economy are published regularly in the Survey of Current Business, and annual summaries and additional detail are usually presented in the July issue.

In 1951 the Office of Business Economics published a "National Income Supplement" to the Survey of Current Business, presenting a detailed discussion of the conceptual framework, sources and methods of estimation of United States statistics on national income and product. In addition, the Supplement contains a review of changes in national income and product since 1929, illustrated by a series of charts designed to further understanding of the composition and relation of the major aggregates; series on gross national product in constant dollars for the years 1929-50; and a complete set of statistical tables for 1929-50. The Supplement contains all national income statistics except the series on State income payments, and thus serves as a comprehensive base book.

Gross national product is the market value of those goods and services produced by the labor and property of the nation's residents. It is the most adequate monetary measure we have of the over-all functioning of the economy. It is designed to answer such questions as whether the total output of goods and services is rising or falling, and how the composition and distribution of this output are changing.

Annual estimates from 1929 and quarterly estimates from 1939 have been prepared of gross national product (GNP) and each of its chief components: personal consumption expenditures; gross private domestic investment; net foreign investment; and Government purchases of goods and services. Estimates are also prepared to measure the trend of gross national product after allowance has been made for price changes--that is, GNP in constant dollars.

National income is the sum of labor and property earnings from the current production of goods and services by the nation's economy. As such, it measures the cost of hiring the factors which directly produce this output--labor, capital, and land. It does not measure the value of that output, however, since it excludes the portions of the market price which are added on to cover depreciation and certain business taxes. Nor does it measure the current flow of income: it does not include current income from past production, or receipts from capital gains or the sale of assets; while it does include such undistributed income items as social security taxes and undistributed profits.

Annual estimates from 1929 and quarterly estimates from 1939 have been prepared of national income and its chief components: wages and salaries, proprietors' income, corporate profits, rental income and net interest. The annual estimates of total national income in the aggregate and by factor shares, presented in the July issue of the Survey of Current Business, are classified by about 70 industry groups.

Personal income is composed of the income currently received by individuals, unincorporated enterprises and nonprofit institutions in the form of wage and salary receipts, other labor income, proprietors' and rental income, interest and dividends, and transfers of income from business and from the Government (such as military pensions, old-age benefits, and relief payments). Disposable income measures personal income after deduction for income taxes and related payments. Seasonally adjusted monthly totals of personal and disposable income at annual rates are available for the period beginning January 1929. More detailed annual estimates, including the disposition of personal income to consumption expenditures, taxes and personal savings, are available from 1929 on.

Estimates of income received in the various States, similar in concept to personal income, have been issued annually since 1939 for each State. They are published each year with supporting detail in the August issue of the Survey of Current Business.

See bibliography, items 3, 40.

Appendix I

STATISTICAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF FEDERAL AGENCIES

Major responsibilities of executive departments and independent establishments for collection or analysis of statistical data

Agency

Area of statistical responsibility

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Bureau of the Budget

Office of Statistical Standards

Coordination and improvement of Federal statistical services.

Office of Budget Review

Preparation of the Budget of the United States; preparation and analysis of Federal budgetary and fiscal data.

Council of Economic Advisers

Analysis and interpretation of economic data and appraisal of Federal activities bearing on the national economy.

National Security Resources Board

Analysis of data pertaining to availability and requirements for natural, material, production, and manpower resources from the standpoint of planning for national security.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Bureau of Agricultural Economics

Statistics on crop and livestock production and inventories; crop forecasts; food processing and consumption; farm population, labor and wages; farm management; farm ownership, taxation and finance; land values and transfers; prices farmers pay and receive; farm income.

Agricultural Research Administration

Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics

Income and expenditures of rural families; food consumption.

Farm Credit Administration

Data on farm lending agencies and activities under the FCA; statistics on loans; statistics on farmers' cooperatives.

Forest Service

Extent, growth and drain of timber resources; stumpage, log, and lumber prices; lumber distribution and consumption; administrative statistics on national forests, forest fires, etc.

AgencyArea of statistical responsibility

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (Continued)

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations	Foreign agricultural statistics, including production, stocks and utilization, international trade and prices.
Production and Marketing Administration	Market information on the supply, demand, movement, quality and prices for major agricultural commodities in the principal markets and producing areas. Commodities reported include livestock, meats, wool, fresh fruits and vegetables, dairy and poultry products, grain, hay, feed, cotton, cottonseed, tobacco, rice, honey, blackstrap molasses, naval stores, and others.

(More specialized administrative or operating statistics are collected by other units within the Department of Agriculture, such as the Bureaus of Animal Industry and Dairy Industry in the Agricultural Research Administration, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, Farmers Home Administration, Rural Electrification Administration, and Soil Conservation Service.)

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Bureau of the Census	Censuses of population, housing, agriculture, irrigation, drainage, manufactures, business, transportation, mineral industries and governments. Current statistics on population and the labor force; manufacturing activities and commodity production; cotton ginning; retail and wholesale trade; foreign trade; and State and local government finances and employment.
Bureau of Public Roads	Statistics derived from reports from State highway agencies on construction, finances and administration of highways; traffic characteristics with respect to volumes, weights and types; motor vehicle registrations.
Civil Aeronautics Administration	Statistics on characteristics and utilization of airports, airways and air navigation facilities; distribution and utilization of registered aircraft; certificated airmen and airman schools; inspection and maintenance activities; violations of Civil Air Regulations.
Maritime Administration	Ship statistics on world merchant fleets; employment and wages in U.S. maritime industry; ship utilization and performance; cargoes carried in U.S. foreign trade.

AgencyArea of statistical responsibility

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (Continued)

National Bureau of Standards	Research in statistical methods (primarily in physical sciences) by Mathematical Computation and Statistical Engineering Laboratories.
National Production Authority	Statistics on supply and requirements of manufactured products, primarily metals, for use in administering the Controlled Materials Plan and other emergency production controls; estimates of private nonresidential construction.
Office of Business Economics	Estimates of national income, gross national product and related series; analyses of consumer income and expenditure data; foreign transactions of the U.S.; foreign investments and balance of international payments.
Office of Industry and Commerce	Analysis of area potentials for industrial development and relocation of plants; records of trade association activities.
Office of International Trade	Analyses of data compiled by Census Bureau on U.S. foreign trade, and of trade and production of other countries.
Weather Bureau	Complete weather records; weekly summary of weather and crop conditions.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Army Corps of Engineers	Information on characteristics of vessels using U.S. channels, waterways and ports, and weight and type of commodities carried.
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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Mines	Statistics on production, consumption and stocks of minerals and mineral products, including mineral fuels; and statistics on employment and injuries in mineral industries.
Bureau of Reclamation	Reports on irrigation systems, status of irrigable lands, and related data on construction and operation of irrigation products.
Fish and Wildlife Service	Statistics on production, storage, transportation and prices of fishery products; fish landings; data on fish and wildlife resources.

AgencyArea of statistical responsibility

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Bureau of Prisons	Federal prison and disciplining reports, criminal docket reports; reports on prisoners in State and Federal penitentiaries and reformatories.
Federal Bureau of Investigation	Reports on crimes known to police; age and sex of persons fingerprinted.
Immigration and Naturalization Service	Alien registration and immigration statistics; applications for and certificates of naturalization.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Bureau of Employees' Compensation	Administrative reports of injuries covered by Federal and District of Columbia workmen's compensation laws.
Bureau of Employment Security	Current statistics relating to the Federal-State employment security program, including reports on local public employment office placement, unemployment insurance claimstaking and related operations; labor market manpower analyses; State and area agricultural labor market data; selected industry and occupations studies; employment and wages covered by unemployment insurance; contributions and benefit payments, and disqualifications and appeals.
Bureau of Labor Statistics	Current statistics on employment, earnings, man-hours, labor turnover, labor conditions in foreign countries, industrial accidents, work stoppages, wage rates; collective bargaining agreements; industrial productivity; occupational outlook studies; housing construction, publicly financed nonresidential construction; wholesale prices; retail prices and consumers' price indexes, family income and expenditures; and distribution of incomes.
Wage and Hour and Public Contracts Divisions	Statistics derived from applications and other administrative forms used in administration of wage, hour and child labor legislation.
Women's Bureau	Studies of employment trends and opportunities, working conditions, and other significant economic changes relating to women workers.

AgencyArea of statistical responsibility

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Division of Foreign
ReportingCoordination of economic reporting demands on
Foreign Service posts.

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Statistics on receipts, expenditures, public
debt, and other aspects of Federal Government
finance; monetary statistics.Comptroller of the
CurrencyCondition, operations and supervision of na-
tional banks.

Bureau of Internal Revenue

Financial statistics on businesses and indi-
viduals, based on income tax returns; miscel-
laneous production and other statistics re-
lated to taxed commodities.

Bureau of the Mint

Domestic production and consumption of gold
and silver; foreign monetary statistics.Office of International
Finance

International capital movements.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE
FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEMStatistics on money and banking, covering espe-
cially Federal Reserve Banks and "member banks"
of the Federal Reserve System; indexes of in-
dustrial production; consumer credit and fi-
nances; department store activities.

CIVIL AERONAUTICS BOARD

Financial and operating statistics on U.S. air
carriers; accident reports involving aircraft.FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS
COMMISSIONFinancial and operating statistics on the tele-
phone, telegraph, and radio and television
broadcasting industries.FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE
CORPORATIONStatistics on insured banks, on all banks in
the United States, and on deposit insurance.

FEDERAL POWER COMMISSION

Financial and operating statistics on the elec-
tric utility and natural gas industries; sta-
tistical reports on industrial power genera-
tion and capacity.

FEDERAL SECURITY AGENCY

Office of Education

Basic statistics on city and State school sys-
tems, institutions of higher education, spe-
cial schools, public and school libraries;
public school employment; financial data.

AgencyArea of statistical responsibility

FEDERAL SECURITY AGENCY (Continued)

Office of Vocational
RehabilitationFinancial and administrative statistics from
State agencies on operation of Federal-aid
programs for vocational rehabilitation.Public Health Service
(including National Office
of Vital Statistics)Statistics on births, deaths, marriages and di-
vorces; life tables; morbidity reports; medi-
cal, dental and hospital statistics; inspec-
tion reports; financial and administrative sta-
tistics from State agencies on Federal-aid
health programs and on hospital construction.Social Security
AdministrationCollection and analysis of data on covered work-
ers, beneficiaries and benefits under old-age
and survivors insurance, recipients and payments
under public assistance, child health and wel-
fare services, and operations of Federal credit
unions; compilation and analysis of data on
social security financing, private health and
welfare plans, and over-all data on all social
security and related programs.

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

Administrative reports from export associations;
financial statement data from nonlisted com-
panies; occasional special studies.

HOUSING AND HOME FINANCE AGENCY

Office of the Adminis-
tratorGeneral statistics on housing; housing research
program.Federal Housing Admin-
istrationOperating statistics on mortgage insurance op-
erations under the National Housing Act.

Home Loan Bank Board

Statistics on nonfarm mortgage finance, includ-
ing financial reports of Federal Home Loan
Banks and Federal Savings and Loan Insurance
Corporation; savings and loan associations;
mortgage debt, recordings and foreclosures.Publication Housing
Administration

Operating statistics on public housing.

INTERSTATE COMMERCE
COMMISSIONFinancial and operating statistics on steam
and electric railroads, pipelines, interstate
water transportation, freight forwarders, and
certain classes of contract and common car-
rier highway transportation.

<u>Agency</u>	<u>Area of statistical responsibility</u>
MUTUAL SECURITY AGENCY	Collection and analysis of basic economic data pertaining to countries participating in the Mutual Security Program, and of data on operations of this program.
NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION	Statistical information on scientific research and development, availability and utilization of scientific manpower, and the exchange of scientific information.
RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD	Applications, claims and payroll reports for railroad retirement benefits, unemployment compensation, and sickness insurance.
RECONSTRUCTION FINANCE CORPORATION	Statistics derived from applications and other administrative forms used in connection with loans.
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION	Application, registration, and administrative reports under the securities and public utility holding company legislation, including financial statements of companies with securities listed on national securities exchanges.
SELECTIVE SERVICE SYSTEM	Statistics on the registration, classification, deferment, selection, examination and induction of men aged 18 and over liable for service under the Universal Military Training and Service Act.
TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY	Financial and operating reports on projects subject to TVA, and from municipalities purchasing TVA power; wage rates and other economic data in TVA areas.
U.S. CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION	Federal executive employment and turnover data, and other Federal personnel statistics.
U.S. TARIFF COMMISSION	Statistics on quantity of production and quantity and value of sales of synthetic organic chemicals; studies of production costs in specific industries.
VETERANS ADMINISTRATION	Operating reports on veterans' benefits, including pensions, life insurance, medical care, loans, etc.

Appendix II

BIBLIOGRAPHY OF PRINCIPAL PERIODICAL STATISTICAL PUBLICATIONS

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Bureau of the Budget

1. The Budget of the United States. Annual. Official publication presenting requested appropriations for all agencies for the coming fiscal year, estimates of expenditures for the current fiscal year, and actual expenditures for the preceding fiscal year. Special analyses of activities of the Federal Government: public works, grants-of-aid to States, developmental vs. operational expenditures of the U.S., credit programs of the Federal Government, and 10-year historical table of Federal expenditures classified by function.
2. The Federal Budget in Brief. Annual. Presentation of Government financial program in nontechnical language, with charts, tabular and descriptive material.

Council of Economic Advisers

3. The Economic Report of the President, with an Economic Review by the Council of Economic Advisers. Semiannual. Analysis of current developments in employment, production and purchasing power and recommendations for policy action, with statistical appendixes presenting supporting data.
4. Economic Indicators. Monthly publication prepared by the Council and published by the Congressional Joint Committee on the Economic Report, presenting basic statistical series produced by Federal agencies on prices; employment and wages; production and business activity; purchasing power; credit, money and Federal finance; and the total output of the economy.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

5. Agricultural Statistics. Annual. A collection of principal agricultural series on acreage, yield and production of crops; commercial crops; prices received by farmers; livestock production; market supplies and prices; and imports and exports.
6. Statistical Bulletins. Handbooks, some on a periodic and others on an occasional basis, presenting all available Department of Agriculture data on specific subjects, such as food consumption, cotton, wool, dairy products, feed, etc.

Bureau of Agricultural Economics

7. Crop Production. Monthly. Data on acreage, yield per acre, and total production of major crops, and on production of milk and eggs. Separate reports are also issued at varying frequencies, usually monthly, for other commodities, such as dairy products, grain stocks, and commercial truck crops.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Bureau of Agricultural Economics (Continued)

8. Farm Production and Disposition Reports. Annual. A series of separate reports on production and distribution (some containing also information on value, cash receipts, and gross income) for principal crops, livestock, and livestock products.
9. Situation and Outlook Reports. A series of periodic reports providing current information on supply, demand, price and other trends affecting agriculture. Separate reports are issued on specific subjects, such as: farm income; demand and price; marketing and transportation; farm costs; and major commodities, including livestock and meat, poultry and eggs, dairy products, fruit, vegetables, sugar, tobacco, and others.
10. Agricultural Prices. Monthly. Prices received by farmers for all groups of farm products, index numbers of prices received and paid by farmers, and parity prices.
11. Farm Labor. Monthly. Current national estimates of farm employment and farm wage rates.
12. Agricultural Finance Review. Annual. Data on farm mortgage credit, non-real-estate credit, farm cooperative credit, farm taxation; agricultural insurance; and other aspects of agricultural finance.
13. Agricultural Estimating and Reporting Services of the United States Department of Agriculture. Miscellaneous Publication No. 703, issued in 1949. Basic reference book on types of statistical reports issued by the Department (including crop, price, farm labor and market news reports), with descriptions of the methods used in collecting, analyzing and publishing the data, types of inquiries used, etc.
14. Checklist of BAE Publications. Monthly. A listing of all periodical and special reports issued during the month by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

Farm Credit Administration

15. Annual Report of the Farm Credit Administration. Data on farm lending agencies and activities under the Farm Credit Administration, including loan statistics.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations

16. Foreign Agriculture. Monthly. Foreign agricultural production, foreign government policies relating to agriculture, and international trade in agricultural products.

Production and Marketing Administration

17. Market News Reports. Press releases prepared daily (in season) for major commodities in important terminal marketing centers. The daily reports are supplemented in many cases by weekly, monthly or annual publications.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Bureau of the Census

18. Statistical Abstract of the United States. Annual. Important summary statistics obtained from governmental and nongovernmental sources on the industrial, social, political and economic organization of the United States. Supplements extending the amount of detail, issued in separate volumes, include: Historical Statistics of the United States, 1789-1945, presenting about 3,000 statistical time series, largely annual, extending back to the earliest year for which the data are available, with specific source notes, definitions of terms, and descriptive text; and County and City Data Book, 1949, a compact presentation of 101 items of data for each county and standard metropolitan area in the U.S., and 92 items of data for each of about 400 cities with a population of 25,000 or more in 1940.
19. U.S. Census of Population: 1950. Vol. I, Number of Inhabitants; Vol. II, Characteristics of the Population; Vol. III, Census Tract Statistics (population and housing). Succeeding volumes will cover nativity and parentage, nonwhite population by race, persons of Spanish surname, institutional population, differential fertility, labor force characteristics, occupations, industry, income, internal migration, education, and characteristics of families and households. Data also available in separate bulletins, by State.
20. U.S. Census of Housing: 1950. Vol. I, General Characteristics; Vol. II, Nonfarm Housing Characteristics; Vol. IV, Residential Financing; Vol. V, Block Statistics. Housing statistics for census tracts will be included in census tract reports from the 1950 Census of Population. Data also available for individual States in separate bulletins.
21. Key to the Published and Tabulated Data for Small Areas: 1950 Censuses of Population and Housing, presenting in tabular form both the amount of detail tabulated and the published portion thereof for particular types of localities and for specific subjects.
22. Current Population Reports. Monthly and special releases of data obtained in the Current Population Survey. Among the regular releases are: Series P-20, Population Characteristics; Series P-25, Population Estimates; Series P-50, Special Labor Force Reports; Series P-57, Monthly Report on the Labor Force; Series P-60, Consumer Income.
23. U.S. Census of Agriculture: 1950. Vol. I, Statistics for Counties and State Economic Areas (State reports, in 34 parts, giving data on farms, farm characteristics, and farm products); Vol. II, General Report (summary data and analyses, with statistics by subjects for States, geographic divisions, and for the U.S.); Vol. III, Irrigation of Agricultural Lands (data for counties and drainage basins, by States, with a summary for the U.S.); Vol. IV, Drainage of Agricultural Lands (data for counties, by States, with a summary for the U.S.); Vol. V, Special Reports (by subjects, such as horticultural specialties, multiple-unit operations, ranking agricultural counties, etc.)

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Bureau of the Census (Continued)

24. U.S. Census of Manufactures: 1947. Vol. I, General Summary; Vol. II, Statistics by Industry (bulletins for individual industries available separately); Vol. III, Statistics by States (bulletins for individual States available separately); Product Supplement; MC201, Summary Statistics (introductory chapter to Vols. I-III); MC202, Industry Descriptions (appendix C of Vols. I-III); MC203, Fuels and Electric Energy Consumed; MC204, Classes of Products, by State; Indexes of Production.
25. Annual Survey of Manufactures, initiated for the year 1949. Single volume presenting general statistics of manufacturing activity from 1949 and 1950 surveys, including value added; value of shipments; cost of materials, fuels and electric energy consumed; employment, man-hours and payrolls; and capital expenditures.
26. Facts for Industry. Monthly, quarterly and annual releases on shipments, production, stocks and orders, for more than 60 commodities.
27. U.S. Census of Business: 1948. Vol. I, Retail Trade--General Statistics, Part I; Vol. II, Retail Trade--General Statistics, Part 2, and Merchandise Line Sales Statistics; Vol. III, Retail Trade--Area Statistics; Vol. IV, Wholesale Trade--General Statistics and Commodity Line Sales Statistics; Vol. V, Wholesale Trade--Area Statistics; Vol. VI, Service Trade--General Statistics; Vol. VII, Service Trade--Area Statistics. A separate series of 14 Trade Reports present 1948 Census of Business data for one or more of the retail, wholesale and service fields.
28. Monthly Trade Reports. Information on the trends in sales or receipts and inventories of retail and wholesale trade, by kind of business, for the country as a whole and for selected large cities.
29. Quarterly Summary of Foreign Commerce of the United States. Cumulative-to-annual. Official statistics on the value and shipping weight of the import and export trade of the United States, by commodity groups and foreign countries.
30. Current reports on United States foreign trade. Monthly and annual. For individual reports, see Census Bureau Catalog of United States Foreign Trade Statistical Publications.
31. Quarterly Survey of Public Employment. Estimated number of State and local government employees, based on reports from all States, cities over 10,000 and counties over 50,000, and a sample of townships, special districts, and smaller cities and counties; classified by type of employee (permanent full-time, permanent part-time, temporary) and once a year by governmental function.
32. Financial Statistics of Cities. Annual. Statistics on revenues, expenditures, indebtedness and other financial data on general government and public service enterprises, for cities over 25,000 population.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Bureau of the Census (Continued)

33. Financial Statistics of States. Annual. Same material as in item 32, above, for all States.
34. Catalog of United States Census Publications, 1790-1945. Joint publication of Bureau of the Census and Library of Congress, issued in 1950.
35. Catalog of United States Census Publications. Quarterly and cumulative-to-annual. A listing of reports on all subjects issued by the Bureau of the Census, and an index to their contents. A Monthly Supplement, excluding regular monthly and quarterly reports, keeps the catalog section up to date.

Bureau of Public Roads

36. Traffic Volume Trends. Monthly. Data from about 1800 traffic counting stations on number of vehicles per day and percentage change from same month a year ago.

Civil Aeronautics Administration

37. Statistical Handbook of Civil Aviation. Annual. Airports and landing fields by State, class and type, and number by years; aviation accidents, showing vital statistics and causes.
38. CAA Journal. Monthly. Traffic and operating statistics for domestic, territorial, and international and overseas scheduled air carriers by company, presented in more detail in the Civil Aeronautics Board's Annual Air Line Statistics (see item 77).

National Production Authority

39. Construction and Building Materials. Monthly. Value of new construction, construction costs, State and local public construction, and production and prices of building materials.

Office of Business Economics

40. Survey of Current Business. Monthly. Interpretive text and charts on current business trends; statistical series (about 2,500 each month) on national income, gross national product, and personal and farm income; expenditures for new plant and equipment; retail and wholesale sales; manufacturers' orders and inventories; quarterly estimates of the balance of international payments; and production, prices and shipments in a wide variety of fields. A biennial Statistical Supplement presents the historical record of the series carried in the monthly issues, with explanatory notes and exact source references. A National Income Supplement published in 1951 contains a complete set of statistical tables on national income and product from 1929, with gross national product shown in both constant and current dollars, and a description of the conceptual framework, sources and methods of estimation used in the series.
41. Foreign Transactions of the U.S. Government. Quarterly. Detailed data on Government expenditures abroad, by program and country.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (Continued)

Office of International Trade

- 42. Foreign Commerce Yearbook. Annual. Detailed foreign trade statistics and related economic data for the U.S. and about 75 foreign countries.
- 43. Foreign Commerce Weekly. Economic analysis of the foreign trade of the U.S. and of other countries. One issue each month presents summaries of U.S. foreign trade, by country and by principal commodities, and of the trade of principal foreign countries.

Weather Bureau

- 44. Climatological Data. Monthly and annual. Series of 46 separate reports (for States or groups of States, Alaska, Hawaii, West Indies, and U.S.), containing observational data from all weather-reporting stations, with tables listing daily and monthly precipitation, temperatures, monthly heating degree days, evaporation, wind movement, etc. A separate series of monthly reports gives detailed daily climatological data for each of approximately 350 first-order weather stations.
- 45. Monthly Climatic Data for the World. Temperature and precipitation data and departures from normal, upper air temperature and humidity, for more than 600 selected cities throughout the world.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Corps of Engineers, Department of the Army

- 46. Commercial Statistics, Water-Borne Commerce of the United States (Pt. 2, Annual Report of Chief of Engineers). Tonnage of water-borne commerce, by ports, rivers, canals and connecting channels, by chief commodity.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Mines

- 47. Minerals Yearbook. Annual. General tables give mineral products by year, quantity, value, and State; also employment and injuries, including injury rates and trends of injury rates. Separate chapters on each mineral give such data as production and shipments, principal mines, average value, prices, consumption, stocks, foreign trade, reserves, mining by State, employment, and world production by country.
- 48. Annual reports on accidents in mineral industries in the U.S.:
 - Coal Mine Accidents--Injury frequency and severity rates and average severity, with special analyses of differential factors such as age and occupation; man-hours worked, and type of operation.
 - Quarry Accidents--Injury frequency data by State and industry and by degree and cause of injury; man-hours worked, and type of operation.
 - Metal and Nonmetal Mine Accidents (Excluding Coal Mines)--Injury frequency data by State and industry and by degree and cause of injury; man-hours worked, type of operation, and production.
 - Injury Experience in the Oil and Gas Industry--Injury frequency and severity rates by department, from exploration through retailing, with a breakdown by State for each of the larger departments and for all departments combined.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Bureau of Mines (Continued)

49. Current reports on important minerals. Weekly, monthly or quarterly statistics on production, consumption, shipments, and stocks of important minerals and mineral products; coal-mine injuries and employment.
50. New Publications--Bureau of Mines. Monthly. Listing of all reports issued during the month, with a cumulative annual supplement.

Fish and Wildlife Service

51. Fishery Statistics of the United States. Annual. Data on quantity and market value of fish catches, by species and by type of gear; quantity and market value of arrivals at important markets; quantity and value of manufactured products; cold-storage holdings. Complete data on the fishery and fur seal industries in Alaska are presented annually in Alaska Fishery and Fur Seal Industries.
52. Current Fishery Statistics Series. Monthly. Data on landings at principal ports; freezings and cold-storage holdings; production of fish oil and fish meal. Also annual summaries of the monthly bulletins, and annual bulletins containing data on employment, fishing gear, volume and value of the catch, and of fishery products.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Bureau of Prisons

53. National Prisoner Statistics. Annual. Statistics on prisoners, including age, sex, type of offense, number of commitments and discharges, etc., and administrative data for State and Federal prisons and reformatories.
54. Federal Prisons. Annual Report of the Director of the Bureau of Prisons, with data on commitments, discharges and populations of Federal prisons; statistics on Federal parole and probation; etc.

Federal Bureau of Investigation

55. Uniform Crime Reports. Semiannual. Reports on offenses known to police in cities and selected rural areas; also arrest data.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Bureau of Employees' Compensation

56. The Injured Federal Employee. Annual. Data resulting from administration of the workmen's compensation law for employees of the Federal Government; number of work injuries to those employees, frequency and severity rates, and cost of compensation, cross-classified by Federal agency in which employed.

Bureau of Employment Security

57. The Labor Market and Employment Security. Monthly. Summary of conditions, trends and outlook in the labor market, nationally and for major industries, occupations and areas; analyses of developments and problems in unemployment insurance and of operating phases of the employ-

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Bureau of Employment Security (Continued)

ment security program; operating data on placement and unemployment insurance activities of affiliated State agencies. A monthly supplement presents additional data on placements within industries by State, sex, and major occupational group; and on unemployment insurance claims, benefits, appeals, etc., by State. A quarterly statistical supplement on Employment and Wages gives national totals of employment and wage data in covered industries for 8 industry divisions, 75 major industry groups, and over 400 industries; and by State and geographic areas for the 8 industry divisions, 66 of the major industry groups, and 24 of the industries.

58. Labor Market Developments in Major Areas--Bimonthly Summary. Employment and unemployment trends and manpower conditions in 174 major production and employment centers, with a classification of the areas into four groups according to the relative adequacy of their labor supply. The classifications are based on information contained in labor market reports submitted by State employment security agencies. Local labor market information is also available in periodic newsletters issued by more than 500 employment offices.

59. Unemployment Insurance Claims. Weekly. Data by State on volume of initial claims filed, weeks of unemployment claimed, and insured unemployment.

Bureau of Labor Statistics

60. Monthly Labor Review. Special articles in the general field of labor relations, labor economics and statistics. Continuous reporting of current statistics on employment and payrolls in manufacturing and nonmanufacturing industries, contract construction, and Government; labor turnover in manufacturing and nonmanufacturing industries, by class of turnover and by sex; average hours and earnings in manufacturing and nonmanufacturing industries and in contract construction, and estimated adjusted hourly earnings, exclusive of overtime, of production workers in manufacturing industries; consumers' price index for moderate-income families, by groups of commodities and for 34 large cities; retail prices of food, average prices and indexes, by cities; wholesale price indexes, by groups and subgroups of commodities; work stoppages resulting from labor-management disputes; and, on building and construction, estimated construction expenditures, value of Federally-financed construction contracts, permit valuation of urban building construction; dwelling units started in nonfarm areas, and average construction costs of privately financed dwelling units. The Monthly Labor Review also publishes on a regular schedule, but at less frequent intervals than one month, statistical studies of: union wage rates in 5 industries; studies of wages and related practices in particular industries; extent of collective bargaining and of work stoppages; work injury rates; cause and analysis studies of injury rates, by industries; operations of consumers' cooperatives and activities of credit unions; and comparisons of labor statistics (cost of living, earnings) in foreign countries.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Bureau of Labor Statistics (Continued)

61. Separate processed reports, presenting more detailed and additional data on subjects covered in the Monthly Labor Review, are issued monthly for:
- Employment and Payrolls--Detailed Report
 - Labor Turnover Report
 - Current Wage Developments
 - Hours and Earnings--Industry Report
 - Consumers' Price Index and Retail Food Prices
 - Wholesale (Primary Market) Price Index
 - Labor-Management Disputes
 - Construction
62. Techniques of Preparing Major ELS Series. Bulletin 993, issued in 1950. A summary of technical notes on major series of the Bureau of Labor Statistics covering scope of the surveys, concepts involved, definitions of terms, methods employed in collecting the basic data and in calculating the statistical measures, uses of the series, and a discussion of their limitations.
63. Handbook of Labor Statistics. Bulletin 1016, issued in 1951. A compendium of major statistical series on labor and related subjects, from their start to January 1951. Information is drawn largely from Bureau of Labor Statistics sources, but continuing measures of labor conditions issued by other Federal agencies are also included.
64. Publications of the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Monthly. A listing of bulletins, releases, articles, reprints from the Monthly Labor Review and forthcoming publications of the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Materials issued by regional offices are also included. Six-month cumulative issues released twice a year.

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Office of the Secretary

65. Annual Report of the Secretary of the Treasury on the State of the Finances. Current and historical data on receipts, expenditures, public debt and other aspects of Federal Government finance; stock and circulation of money; miscellaneous other financial data.
66. Treasury Bulletin. Monthly. Current data on Federal Government finance; monetary statistics; international capital movements; Government corporations.
67. Daily Statement of the United States Treasury. Daily and cumulative statistics on Federal Government finance, supplemented by periodic special tabulations.

Office of the Comptroller of the Currency

68. Annual Report of the Comptroller of the Currency. Statistics on national banks; on all banks in the United States; and on certain other financial institutions in the District of Columbia.

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (Continued)

69. Abstract of Reports of Condition of National Banks. Three or more times per year. Detailed balance sheet data for national banks.

Bureau of Internal Revenue

70. Statistics of Income. Annual. Tax, income and related data compiled from income tax returns. Data from individual returns are published in Part 1; from corporate returns in Part 2.

Bureau of the Mint

71. Annual Report of the Director of the Mint. United States and foreign data on coinage and the precious metals.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

72. Annual Report. Financial data on Federal Reserve Banks; selected other banking data.
73. Federal Reserve Bulletin. Monthly. Leading current data on money and banking and selected economic series. Includes Federal Reserve indexes of industrial production; consumer credit and department store series; consumer finance data and analyses; and international financial statistics. Analyses of current economic developments and special articles on financial subjects.
74. Member Banks Call Report. Three or more times per year. Detailed balance sheet data for all member banks of the Federal Reserve System. Tables classifying banks by legal status, Federal Reserve District, State and major cities.
75. Banking and Monetary Statistics. (Not periodic; published in 1943.) Basic reference book for banking, monetary and certain related financial statistics, with back data and explanatory text.
76. Federal Reserve Charts on Bank Credit, Money Rates and Business. Monthly, with annual Historical Supplement. Charts on banking, currency, credit, money rates and security markets, government finance, business finance, business conditions, and international trade and finance.

CIVIL AERONAUTICS BOARD

77. Annual Air Line Statistics. Detailed data on traffic, operations, equipment, finances, and employment, for domestic air carriers, by company. Latest volume covers 1948; later volumes will also include international and overseas carriers.
78. Recurrent Reports. Monthly. Financial, mileage and traffic data for all domestic and U.S. international certificated air carriers.
79. Origin-and-destination traffic studies and station-to-station airline surveys of scheduled air carriers. Semiannual, March and September.

CIVIL AERONAUTICS BOARD (Continued)

80. Resume of U.S. Air Carrier Accidents. Annual. A description of each accident in the U.S. to air carriers; statistical summary of these accidents by type of operation; degree of injury to persons and of damage to aircraft, etc.
81. Statistical Analysis of Non-Air Carrier Aircraft Accidents. Annual. Separate reports covering accidents in (1) Instructional Operations, (2) Non-Commercial Operations, (3) Commercial Operations, and (4) Public and Miscellaneous Operations. Each report presents data on degree of injury to persons and of damage to aircraft; and on primary cause and type of accident.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

82. Statistics of the Communications Industry in the United States. Annual. Financial and operating data on telephone, wire-telegraph, ocean-cable and radiotelegraph carriers and controlling companies; employment, compensation and accidents; and number of telephones in homes, by States and by principal cities.
83. Broadcast Financial Data for Networks and AM, FM and Television Stations. Annual. Revenues, expenses and income, and investment in tangible broadcast property.

FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

84. Annual Report. Statistics on banks and deposit insurance, including structure of the banking system; assets and liabilities of all operating banks and of insured banks; earnings, expenses and dividends of insured banks; deposit insurance disbursements and related data.
85. Assets, Liabilities and Capital Accounts...Commercial and Mutual Savings Banks. Semiannual. Balance-sheet data for all operating banks and for insured banks.

FEDERAL POWER COMMISSION

86. Electric Power Statistics. Monthly. Production of electric energy and capacity of plants, by States, classes of ownership, and types of prime movers, with annual compilation; consumption of fuel for production of electric energy, with annual summaries of fuel consumed, with corresponding figures on generation and fuel burned per kilowatt-hour generated; electric power requirements and supply showing actual and forecast peak demands, together with existing and scheduled generating capacity.
87. Statistics of Electric Utilities in the United States, Classes A and B, Privately Owned Companies. Annual. Financial statistics of privately owned companies, consisting of balance sheets, income and earned surplus statements, capital stocks and bonds, electric operating revenues, customs and sales, by classes of service, operating expenses, utility plant and physical quantities; electric rate statistics, prices and costs.

FEDERAL POWER COMMISSION (Continued)

88. Statistics of Natural Gas Companies. Annual. Composite financial statements for the natural gas industry. For Class A and Class B companies--balance sheet; income and earned surplus accounts; gas operating revenues, customers, and sales; gas operating expenses; gas utility plant, gas account and physical quantities. For Class C and Class D companies--balance sheet; income account; gas operating revenues, customers, and sales; gas operating expenses; and gas account.
89. Typical Net Monthly Bills. Annual. Separate reports for (1) cities of 50,000 population and over and (2) communities of 2,500 population and over, showing rates charged for specified amounts of electric energy for residential, commercial, and industrial service.
90. Directory of Electric and Gas Utilities in the United States. Publicly, privately and cooperatively owned utilities; names of principal officials, investments, capacities, employees, sales, communities and population served, for each utility, and significant totals by States.

FEDERAL SECURITY AGENCY

Office of Education

91. Biennial Survey of Education. Basic statistics on enrollment, personnel, finances, and administrative units for various types of educational institutions and libraries.

Public Health Service

92. Vital Statistics of the United States. Annual. Natality and mortality data tabulated by place of residence and by place of occurrence, with supplemental tables for Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands.
93. Monthly Vital Statistics Report. Monthly and cumulative data on births, marriage licenses, deaths, and infant deaths for States, certain cities, and Hawaii, and on marriage licenses for major cities; death rates by cause, age, race and sex, estimated from a 10-percent sample of death certificates filed in State and independent city vital statistics offices; and divorce data for a limited number of States and Hawaii.
94. Vital Statistics--Special Reports. Annual national statistical summaries of births, deaths, fetal deaths, marriages and divorces. Also occasional special analytic studies.
95. Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report. Numbers of cases reported during week by States for 25 communicable diseases, and by cities for a smaller group of diseases; total deaths registered in each of 106 major cities; narrative reports of epidemics and unusual occurrences of disease.
96. Patients in Mental Institutions. Annual. Population movement, admissions and separations, administration of hospitals for mental disease.
97. Public Health Reports. Monthly. Scientific and technical material in all fields of public health and public health administration.

FEDERAL SECURITY AGENCY (Continued)

Social Security Administration

98. Social Security Bulletin. Monthly. Current data on benefits and beneficiaries under old-age and survivors insurance, contributions collected and status of the trust fund; recipients and payments under public assistance programs, by State, and selected data for unemployment insurance, railroad, civil service, veterans and other related programs. An Annual Statistical Supplement, published with the September issue, includes annual data and historical series for these programs and data on maternal and child health and welfare services.
99. County Business Patterns (published jointly with the Department of Commerce). Annual. Employment, taxable payrolls, and reporting units by size, for business establishments covered in the old-age and survivors insurance program, classified by industry group and county. Part I--complete description of the data and U.S. summary; Part II--State reports. (1949 edition limited to manufacturing establishments.)
100. Handbook of Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Statistics. 1948 edition issued in 1951, as the eighth of a series started in 1939. Data based on a 1-percent sample of workers with wage credits showing the wage and employment experience of workers in covered employment during the calendar year, and cumulative wage and employment history from 1937. Significant facts relating to both the annual and the work-history data are summarized in an analytical text.
101. Public Assistance Periodical Releases. Monthly, semiannual or annual data, by State, on public assistance applications and case turnover, distribution of payments by amount, reasons for opening and closing cases, source of funds expended for payments and for administration and concurrent receipt of public assistance payments and old-age and survivors insurance benefits.
102. Children's Bureau Statistical Series. Semiannual, annual or occasional releases on child welfare, maternal and child health and crippled children's services, juvenile court statistics, conditions of child life and related data.

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

103. Quarterly Financial Report--United States Manufacturing Corporations (published jointly with the Securities and Exchange Commission). Current profit-and-loss and balance-sheet data for all U.S. manufacturing industries, classified by major industry group, based on coordinated financial statistics program begun in 1947 by the Federal Trade Commission and the Securities and Exchange Commission.

HOUSING AND HOME FINANCE AGENCY

Office of the Administrator

104. Housing Statistics. Monthly. Data compiled from Government and other sources on housing production, construction costs, home financing, and public housing.

HOUSING AND HOME FINANCE AGENCY (Continued)

Federal Housing Administration

105. Insured Mortgage Portfolio. Quarterly. Information on FHA insuring operations; number of applications, insurance commitments issued, number of units started, amount of insurance written by type of housing; status of funds and foreclosures, etc.

Home Loan Bank Board

106. Statistical Summary. Annual. Statistics on nonfarm mortgage finance including financial statements of Federal Home Loan Banks; savings and loan associations, mortgage debt, recordings and foreclosures.
107. Combined Financial Statements of Members of the Federal Home Loan Bank System. Annual. Assets, liabilities, income, and expenses of member savings and loan associations; less extensive data on other member and insured nonmember home finance institutions.

INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSION

108. Statistics of Railways in the United States. Annual. Detailed data on traffic, operations, equipment, finances, employment and accidents covering rail carriers, with selected statistics for other classes of carriers subject to the Interstate Commerce Act (motor carriers, water carriers, oil pipe lines, freight forwarders, Railway Express, Pullman Company, and private car owners).
109. Statistics of Class I Motor Carriers. Annual. Same information for interstate Class I motor carriers as for railways in item 108, except no accident statistics.
110. Annual reports presenting selected financial and operating statistics for interstate water carriers; interstate electric railways; private car owners; freight forwarders; and oil pipe line companies.
111. Accident Bulletin. Annual. Casualties to passengers, employees and other persons by kind and cause of accident; casualty rates; highway grade-crossing accidents. Summary data and detail for individual Class I railways.

MUTUAL SECURITY AGENCY

112. Monthly Report to the Public Advisory Board. Statistical report on operations, with special features on topics of current interest.

MUTUAL SECURITY-OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

113. Report to Congress on the Mutual Security Program. Semiannual. Narrative and statistical review of progress under the Mutual Security Program.

RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD

114. Annual Report of the Railroad Retirement Board. Annual data on the number of beneficiaries, amount of benefits, financial operations and other details of the railroad employee benefit and insurance plans.

RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD (Continued)

115. Monthly Review. Monthly reports on railroad retirement, unemployment insurance, and sickness insurance operations.

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

116. Annual Report. Statistical appendix contains data on value of issues registered, grouped by purpose, method of distribution, type of security, and industry.
117. Statistical Bulletin. Monthly. Security offerings, security trading on exchanges, and related statistics on the securities markets.
118. Working Capital Position of Corporations in the United States. Quarterly. Comparative figures back through 1939 and principal components of current assets and current liabilities.
119. Volume and Composition of Savings. Quarterly. Components contributing to total savings, such as changes in securities, cash, insurance, consumers' indebtedness, and consumers' durable goods.
120. Plant and Equipment Expenditures of U.S. Business. Quarterly. Actual and anticipated capital expenditures by major industry groups, as obtained in joint program of Securities and Exchange Commission and the Office of Business Economics in the Department of Commerce.
121. Quarterly Financial Report--United States Manufacturing Corporations. (published jointly with the Federal Trade Commission). See item 103 above.

SELECTIVE SERVICE SYSTEM

122. Annual Report of the Director of Selective Service to Congress. Operations of the Selective Service System, presenting statistics, by State, on registration, induction, deferment, and related subjects.

UNITED STATES CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

123. Monthly Report of Employment. Statistics of civilian employment and turnover in the Federal Government, by agency and by type of employment. Annual supplements classify employees by State in which their work is located; and by salary grade.

UNITED STATES TARIFF COMMISSION

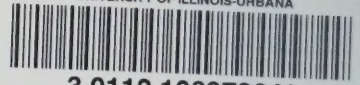
124. Synthetic Organic Chemicals: United States Production and Sales. Annual. Quantity of production and quantity and value of sales of all synthetic organic chemicals for which data are disclosable.

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION

125. Annual Report of the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs. Detailed statistics, for a single year and in time series, on status and activities of Federal programs for ex-members of the armed forces and their dependents and survivors, such as number of beneficiaries receiving compensation and pensions; amount and number of guaranteed loans for financing of homes, farms and businesses; and number of veterans hospitalized.



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